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Near East & South Asia

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LD071319 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Shipping Attacks—Iranian speedboats attacked two ships in the Gulf early 7 October, Radio Monte Carlo reported. A Saudi oil tanker was damaged by three Iranian boats near Dubayy, the radio said, and an unidentified cargo ship was attacked by an Iranian boat off the Al-Shariqah coast. Tehran radio cited news agency reports on the attacks without referring to the identity of the attacking boats.

Voice of the Masses radio earlier broadcast a military statement announcing that Iraqi planes raided a large maritime target off the Iranian coast 6 October.

Iranian Comment—Iran has greatly enhanced its surface-to-surface missile capability and will deliver more "crushing blows" to Iraq if the latter continues its "mischief," IRGC Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust told *Keyhan* in an interview reported by IRNA. Warning that future Iranian retaliation will not be limited to occasional solitary missile attacks, he said Iran's military power has "considerably increased" and the IRGC is ready to launch missiles at targets throughout Iraq. Iran is currently planning to manufacture a "sophisticated" kind of missile, he added.

As for Iran's view of U.S. policy, a Tehran radio commentary claimed that the recent U.S. naval alert in the northern Gulf indicates the Pentagon's "ever-increasing anxiety" about the "probable operations of Islamic combatants." Reports of U.S. amphibious exercises in Germany and other maneuvers elsewhere show that the United States is planning a "serious confrontation" with Iran, the radio said. Contending that the United States is using Iraq as an instrument of its policy aimed at bringing Iran to its knees, the radio added that Iraqi air attacks on Iran "are guided by intelligence put at Iraq's disposal by Washington."

Iraqi Sanctions Call—Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz sent a message to the UN secretary general urging the Security Council to "decisively impose sanctions on the criminal Iranian regime," Baghdad radio reported. 'Aziz denounced Iranian attacks on Iraqi cities, including the missile attacks on Baghdad, and he noted that Iranian shelling of Iraqi residential areas between 20 July and 5 October killed 284 people and wounded 1,165.

Iraq-Jordan

King Husayn made a "short visit" to Iraq to discuss with the Iraqi president preparations for the 8 November Arab summit, Baghdad radio reported. Amman television added that the two leaders also assessed the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Israel

A Shin Bet officer and four "terrorists" were killed in a clash in Gaza between Israeli security forces and a "terrorist squad," IDF radio reported. Two of the "terrorists" were Gaza prison escapees; the others, the radio said, belonged to the "Islamic Jihad Organization."

Lebanon

A PSP statement cited by Voice of the Mountain, the party's clandestine radio, criticized Amal Movement leaders for adopting "certain positions" that "indicate a tendency" to abrogate the charter and political line of the Unification and Liberation Front, a group to which both the PSP and Amal belong. The statement expressed concern that the Front may not be able to continue amid such contradictions among its members. The PSP also expressed regret that its "principled pan-Arab stand" in support of Libya's "battle against imperialism" should be "made an issue."

Pakistan

Soviet Helicopter Incident—A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman announced that two Soviet Mi-24 helicopters flying over the DRA "made a forced landing" in northern Pakistan due to "poor visibility" 3 October, Moscow radio's English service reported. Karachi radio, citing a Foreign Office spokesman, said the crew would be turned over to the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad. According to AFP, the Pakistani spokesman revealed that the six Soviet crewmen were "on a mission for the KGB."

Afghanistan

Protest to Pakistan—The Afghan Foreign Ministry protested a Pakistani claim that the DRA shelled areas in Bajaur and Kurram Agencies in September, Kabul radio announced.

Rafi' in USSR—Defense Minister Muhammad Rafi' held "friendly" talks with his Soviet counterpart Dmitriy Yazov in Moscow, Kabul radio and TASS reported.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Central Council Resumes Meetings in Tunis

JN061658 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] The PLO Central Council resumed its work in Tunis today. The Central Council meetings began yesterday and will last 3 days. Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, last night briefed the Central Council on the political situation in the Middle East, especially the Palestine question and the situation in the occupied homeland and Lebanon.

Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the agenda of the emergency Arab summit to be convened in Amman next month will include the Palestine question and the Arab nation's other issues.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also explained the PLO's relations with the international community and the difficulties preventing an international conference on the Middle East as a result of the obstacles being placed by the Zionist entity and the United States. He also expressed satisfaction with the positive shift in the European position, which stressed the need to convene an international conference and allow the PLO to participate on an equal footing with other parties.

The Central Council also discussed a report submitted by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces and Fatah Central Committee member, on the activity of the armed resistance inside the occupied homeland.

The Council also set up a formulation committee to prepare the final statement in light of the discussions and the reports submitted by the Palestinian leadership, the heads of departments, and the vocational and popular unions.

OPEC Affairs

AFP on Decrease in OPEC Oil Production

AU061256 Paris AFP in English 1249 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Paris, Oct 7 (AFP)—Oil production by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) fell to 18.5 million barrels per day (mbd) in September, a reduction of 1.4 mbd from the August figure, and Iranian output fell by about one third, the International Energy Agency said in a report here on Wednesday.

But Iraq continued to increase its output, raising it by 200,000 barrels per day to 2.4 mbd which was more than Iran produced.

OPEC production during August was running at 19.9 mbd, the IEA said, noting that OPEC had set itself a ceiling of 16.6 mbd until the end of the year.

The report said that output by Gulf countries fell from 13.6 mbd in August to 12.3 mbd. Output by Iran fell by 800,000 mbd to 2.1 mbd in September.

Output by Kuwait fell from 300,000 mbd to 1.1 mbd, and output by the United Arab Emirates was down 200,000 mbd at 1.7 mbd.

But both countries continued to exceed their OPEC quotas of 0.99 mbd for Kuwait and 0.94 mbd for the Emirates.

Saudi Arabia, which produced 4.5 mbd in August, reduced its production to its quota level by producing 4.3 mbd in September the IEA said.

Iraq has refused to accept its OPEC quota of 1.54 mbd and has increased its exports overall by some 0.5 mbd through use of a new pipeline to Turkey.

Output by Ecuador was believed to be running at 0.2 mbd due to the reopening of a pipeline across the country which was destroyed by an earthquake in March.

Total world oil supply, which in August reached the highest level since August 1986 at 50.1 mbd, fell to 48.9 mbd in September.

Oil output from the North Sea rose by 0.2 mbd to 0.3 mbd in September, rising to four mbd on termination of maintenance work.

But in the United States, output in the third quarter was estimated at 9.8 mbd, showing a fall of 0.2 mbd on the same period of 1986.

The IEA said it was counting on growth of less than one per cent in consumption of crude by member countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in the fourth quarter compared with the last quarter of 1986.

For the whole of 1987, the IEA maintained its forecast of an increase in consumption of one per cent over last year. The agency said that consumption was expected to progress at the same rate in OECD countries in the first half of 1988 compared with the first half of 1987.

The IEA estimated all OECD oil stocks, including oil held by governments and companies, at 443 million tonnes on October 1, which was 12 million tonnes more than on July 1 but nine per cent less than a year earlier.

These stocks represented 97 days of consumption.

The agency said it believed that oil companies had re-stocked at the rate of 0.4 mbd in July, two mbd in August and 0.4 mbd in September.

Algeria

Prime Minister Receives Libyan Official

LD061117 Algiers APS in Arabic 0814 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Algiers, 6 Oct (APS)—Abdelhamid Brahimi, candidate member of the FLN Politburo and prime minister, yesterday received in his office Mubarak 'Abdallah al-Shamikh, secretary of the People's Committee for Transportation and Communications in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The talks were also attended by Rachid Benyelles, candidate member of the Politburo and minister of transportation, and Hajar Abdelkader, Algeria's ambassador to Tripoli.

The two sides reviewed all projects of bilateral cooperation in the fields of transportation and communications as well as methods of improving cooperation.

Egypt

Interior Minister Announces Referendum Results

NC061225 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1136 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Statement by Interior Minister Zaki Badr on results of the referendum held on 5 October to reelect President Husni Mubarak for a second term in office—live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [Koranic verse omitted]

Brothers and Sisters: It pleases me to announce the results of the referendum on the presidency of the Republic held on Monday, 5 October, in accordance with Article 76 of the Constitution and in conformity with Law 73 for the year 1956 regarding the exercise of political rights.

The results of the referendum come on the anniversary of the immortal October epic to declare that the great Egyptian people—which had achieved the great victory and wrested the just peace—is continuing its march united behind its national leadership so that Egypt will always remain a free homeland for free citizens.

The results confirm that these noble people know their way, are aware of their responsibility, are reasonable, are inspired by their conscience, place the difficult trust in the hands of those more capable of it, and give its precious confidence to those who deserve it. [Passage omitted]

The results of the referendum on the presidency of the Republic held on Monday, 5 October, are as follows:

Total number of eligible voters	14,368,247
Number of voters who cast their votes	12,711,784
Number of valid votes	12,445,022
Number of invalid votes	266,762
Number of yes votes	12,086,327
Number of no votes	358,695
Percentage of turnout	88.47 percent
Percentage of voters who approve compared with total turnout	95.08 percent
Percentage of voters who disapprove compared with total turnout	2.82 percent
Percentage of invalid votes compared with total turnout	2.1 percent
Percentage of voters who approve compared with the valid votes	97.12 percent
Percentage of voters who disapprove compared with the valid votes	2.88 percent

Brothers and sisters, the referendum was held in an atmosphere of security and order. The voters exercised their full rights to express their opinion and to choose freely. The percentage of those who did not vote in the referendum was very limited if we take into consideration the number of Egyptians abroad who have the right to vote and those who could not vote for various reasons. [Passage omitted]

Mubarak Receives Saudi King's Congratulations

NC061118 Cairo MENA in English 1052 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, Oct 6 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received today a cable of congratulations from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the October victory.

In his cable, the Saudi monarch expressed best wishes of health, happiness for President Mubarak and welfare and prosperity for the Egyptian people.

'Abd al-Majid Briefs Mubarak on U.S. Visit

NC051355 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, at the Presidential Palace today.

After the meeting, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid stated that he had submitted to President Mubarak a detailed report on his recent visit to the United States, his participation in the meetings of the UN General Assembly and the talks he held there, which included meetings with all attending foreign ministers, and his meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, to whom he delivered a message from President Mubarak. [Passage omitted]

Answering a question on the upcoming visit to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid emphasized the importance of this visit and noted that it reflects the desire of the United States to maintain its role as a partner in the peace process.

He added that this visit's significance lies in the fact that it precedes the meeting to be held in Moscow between the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister. 'Abd al-Majid declared: "It concerns us greatly that this meeting focus on the Middle East question. We regard Shultz' tour of the region to listen to the views of the various leaders as positive and useful."

Answering another question on whether the Moscow meeting may promote the prospects for holding an international peace conference, he said: We certainly hope so. The international conference acquires new background daily and is in complete agreement with the Egyptian political line.

On whether the United States has given some form of approval for the convention of a future international conference, 'Abd al-Majid said: I believe that the United States approves and that the concept of holding direct negotiations, which it used to advocate, is no longer in the cards.

On the prospect of holding an international conference despite the current disagreement within the Israeli Government on this issue, Dr 'Abd al-Majid responded by saying that the Israeli Government's internal dispute must necessarily be resolved within Israel. He added: We want this. Regarding international acceptance of the concept of an international conference, however, he noted that this is a matter which is definitely in the cards. [Passage omitted]

When asked whether he carried a message from President Reagan to President Mubarak, 'Abd al-Majid said: I conveyed to his excellency a verbal message from President Reagan and a letter from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Abu Ghazalah Interviewed on Military Strategy

NC0616041 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1247 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Interview with Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, by Siham al-Buluk on 6 October to mark the anniversary of the 1973 war; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Al-Buluk] Ladies and Gentlemen: Greetings to you and may Egypt remain victorious over the years. Yesterday, 5 October 1987, the Egyptian masses, faithful to their country, eager to see it make progress, and mindful of the accomplishment of the past few years, reinstituted Mubarak in office as president and leader of Egypt. Mubarak's reelection means that he will continue to offer the country the leadership which he has proved himself capable of for the past 6 years.

Today is also the anniversary of the 6 October 1973 victory. This was a victory of the people, but particularly of the Armed Forces. On this occasion, we have here a son of the Armed Forces, Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

Field Marshal, before we start our discussion, we would like to congratulate you and the members of the Armed Forces on the 6 October anniversary.

[Abu Ghazalah] Happy anniversary to you.

[Al-Buluk] Field Marshal, before we mention the October war, the battle, the strategy, and the lessons learned from it, we would like to ask you a question that is becoming more important as many developments take place in the Arab world and Africa. What has the Egyptian military strategy been since October 1973?

[Abu Ghazalah] To defend our national security, we must possess the means to defend ourselves against any possible threat. I would say that any threat to our borders from any direction is a threat to our national security. Any threat to shipping in the Red Sea is, by the nature of things, a threat to the Suez Canal, and, therefore, to our national security.

Any attempt to weaken Egypt or influence its political, economic, or social conditions is a threat to our national security. Any threat to the beliefs embraced by our people is a threat to our national security. Also, as we are part of the Arab world and an Arab-African country, we believe that any threat to our Arab brothers and to our African friends which could endanger our own interests is also a threat to our national security.

This is why our military strategy should be built around two basic premises: deterrence and military balance, particularly in view of the growing military capabilities in the region.

For deterrence, we need to keep the Armed Forces at a size commensurate with the abilities of our economy and our self-defense needs. We should have the capability to discourage attack, and all our neighbors should understand that we have such a capability and are ready to use it when necessary.

In order to have a deterrent force, we need to maintain a reasonable balance between our power and that of others in the region. This, in a nutshell, is the core of Egypt's military strategy. [Passage omitted]

[Al-Buluk] Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah, undoubtedly the October war changed the spirits of the Arabs and Israelis and had the greatest of effects on the peoples of the region. Would you tell us about the impact of this war on us as Egyptians and on Israel in the past as well as the present?

[Abu Ghazalah] [Passage omitted] Talking about the impact of the October war on the Israeli soldier, I believe that he had thought he was a superman in the region—invincible—and that the Americans and Soviets were nothing when compared to him. You must remember that some Israeli leaders at the time said they were capable of defeating the Soviet Union. They are even exaggerating in their present evaluations, saying that, in the event of war or confrontation in the Middle East, and if the Soviets were involved, the Israeli army could destroy two-thirds of the Soviet Navy in the Mediterranean.

Nevertheless, I believe the October war changed their perception somewhat because it taught them that being supermen and having an invincible army are not the determining factors. The Egyptian soldier has been a fighter throughout history and he can vanquish the strongest foe. This is the real and true effect on the spirit of the Israeli soldier and every Israeli individual.

[Al-Buluk] Returning to the October war, we note the saying that this war changed the military and political maps of the Middle East, or rather the geopolitics of the Middle East. To what extent is this true?

[Abu Ghazalah] It is true to a great extent. The world had believed that the only force which could affect the Middle East was Israel, but the October war proved that there are many other forces influencing Middle East developments. One of these has been Arab oil, which, regrettably, the Arabs have lost as an effective force. However, there were great political, geographical, and strategic changes in the region after the October war.

[Al-Buluk] Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah, in many ways, especially in the military and technological fields, war is an important industry, actually the most important one. What has the military industry in Egypt done since the October war?

[Abu Ghazalah] It is scientifically known that whichever country possesses the superior technological capability in the developmental and industrial fields also possesses the elements of deterrence and free political decison-making. It is obvious that the country which imports its weapons from another country is affected in its decision-making by the exporting country. Therefore, we have plans to create a military industry capable of providing the basics. This will enable Egypt to be self-reliant in the event of a crisis and or whenever necessary.

Thus, we are fully cooperating with the War Production Facility, the Arab Industrial Organization, and the Ministry of Industry in order to produce very many items. For example, we have gone a long way in the aircraft industry. We are now producing the Alphajet, which is basically an advanced training aircraft and can at the same time provide ground forces support. It is an excellent, technologically advanced aircraft and we chose it after lengthy studies.

We also produce the Tucano, an advanced training aircraft, and have begun production of parts of the Mirage-2000. It is true that we have not reached an advanced stage; however, if we have huge investments in the future we will manufacture multi-purpose aircraft such as the Mirage, which is considered one of the best aircraft in the world, as is the F-16.

With regard to guns, we produce all the types of guns in our stock, that is, the 130-mm and 122-mm, as well as others of various calibers in use by the Armed Forces. We have also begun to mount these guns on tank chassis. We produce all types of ammunition we need, whether they are for aircraft, tanks, heavy artillery, or other munitions. We make all types of small arms and their spare parts; for example, BM-21 [multiple rocket system] and anti-tank rockets.

As far as armor is concerned, we produce the excellent armored vehicle Fahd. We have produced the Ramses-2 tank, a modified version of the T-54, which now excels the M-60 A-3, and are working toward the production of the M-1, the most modern tank. We produce all our own telecommunications equipment.

We have reached excellent standards in our military production. Hopefully, Egypt's military industry will be able to serve as an example for the Arab nation and Africa, with standards that can compete with any military industry in the world. This industry still needs some minor changes in its marketing and advertising techniques, but I am hopeful that it will eventually succeed. [Passage omitted]

Artillery Chief Examines Modernization Efforts

NC041711 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 4 Oct (MENA)—Major General Kamal Mansur, head of the Artillery Corps, has said that Egyptian artillery underwent a considerable change of late, thanks to the political and military efforts of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and military production.

Egypt, Mansur said, has obtained the improved TOW-2 rockets from the United States that can pierce 80-cm-thick armor and are thus able to destroy any tanks produced until the year 2000.

Mansur added that the U.S.-made 109-mm A-2 howitzer is now being used by our mechanized units, mentioning that this is one of the most modern of guns and is the major gun used by NATO.

In addition to that, the artillery chief said, we are also improving the available Eastern bloc guns to make them self-propelled and increase their range by 25 percent. The 122-mm and 130-mm howitzers will thus be able to provide fire backing to the mechanized units.

Maj Gen Kamal Mansur told the MENA military editor that various types of ammunition have also been modified to increase their destructive power, and this applies to both bombs and shells.

He said that special interest was given to the study of flat-trajectory artillery and that Egypt now has enough of these weapons to destroy any large concentration of armored and mechanized forces in any possible confrontation on any front.

Maj Gen Kamal Mansur said that the Eastern bloc anti-tank shell (Molitica) has been improved and can now destroy any type of tank which could be produced until the year 2000. The Swingfire rocket, which Egypt manufactures in collaboration with the United Kingdom, has been modified to increase its armor-piercing abilities and make it capable of destroying the modern and sophisticated tanks.

Mansur mentioned that the recent modernization in the Artillery Corps included fire control equipment. The laser and infrared surveillance and guidance systems that have been introduced are capable of tracing targets 20 km away to an accuracy of 5 meters.

We also have modern surveillance equipment, he said, which can determine the location of a target to within 10 cm at a distance of up to 80 km. He added that Eastern bloc equipment in active service has been provided with sophisticated target sights suitable for day and night vision.

The Artillery Corps, he said, has obtained advanced equipment for reconnaissance and fire control and night vision. This includes thermal imagers which can detect objects at night at a distance of 7 km and help destroy them at a distance of 3 km. [Passage omitted]

Maj Gen Kamal Mansur also mentioned that Egypt produces all kinds of Eastern- and Western-made ammunition in order not to run short of them during war time. Several types of guns are also manufactured in Egypt, such as the D-30 and the B-m-b [as received] guns, which can launch as many as 30 shells a minute as far away as 20 km and thus have a great material and psychological impact on the enemy.

He added that Egypt manufactures self-propelled artillery and anti-tank rockets, as well as equipment for fire control and estimation of distances. [Passage omitted]

Petroleum, Natural Gas Discoveries Reported
JN061119 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 3 Oct 87 p 1

[Text] The *Al-Ahram* economic editor has learned that tomorrow, chemist 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, petroleum and mineral resources minister, will present a report to President Husni Mubarak on three new and important petroleum discoveries and a new natural gas discovery in the Abu Madi field.

The first petroleum discovery is in the Uktubar field in the Gulf of Suez. This will increase petroleum reserves by about 200 million barrels.

The second discovery is in the Ramadan field also in the Gulf of Suez. This will increase Egyptian petroleum reserves by about 50 million barrels.

These discoveries will increase Egyptian petroleum reserves by 250-400 million barrels, bearing in mind that the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ministry officials have set reserves at 250 million barrels.

The third petroleum discovery by the Marathon company is being assessed. Petroleum experts term it as a "strange discovery" because the discovery was actually made in a 200-feet deep layer characterized by high pressure. This petroleum is of an unusually high degree of purity, never before found in Egypt.

Al-Ahram's economic editor has learned that the new discoveries are important because they compensate for production and consumption in 1987/88 without affecting reserves.

The new natural gas discovery in the Abu Madi field exceeds the reserves of this field by 420 billion cubic feet. These new petroleum projects in the eastern desert are expected to be inaugurated within the next few days.

In another development, a 100-km network to transfer butane from the Abu Madi field north of Delta to Tanta and from the Abu Qir field to Al-Maks has been put into operation. This network replaces trucks in order to reduce traffic jams and intense pressure on road surfaces and to increase the efficiency of distribution.

The new project to produce butane from the Abu Madi gas field is scheduled to begin in a few days with a production capacity of 170 tons a day. New projects to expand the exploitation of Abu Rudays gas fields in southern Sinai are currently underway in order to increase butane production to up to 175 tons a day.

The petroleum and natural resources minister has requested the implementation of a new project to lay a butane pipeline from Ra's Shuqayr in the Gulf of Suez to

Suez. It will be 260 km long, with a capacity of 1,100 tons a day. This pipeline comes after the second phase of exploiting the Gulf of Suez gas fields, which produce 700 tons of butane a day, began operating. This pipeline will be linked with the current Musturud-Cairo pipeline.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Committees Meeting

Urges End to Chad Conflict

LD070830 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution yesterday evening attended meetings of the first grouping of the revolutionary committees movement at their 10th gathering in Tripoli.

The brother leader delivered a speech in which he affirmed that the Great Jamahiriyah would like to see a cease-fire as the end to the confrontation between the Muslim brothers and neighbors in the Great Jamahiriyah and Chad.

He said: "I would like to see the Chadian revolutionary committees with us at this 10th gathering of the revolutionary committees movement. This is because they, along with the revolutionary committees in Libya, constitute one single revolutionary committees movement."

The brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution affirmed that the imperialist forces insist on fighting the Great Jamahiriyah to the last Chadian citizen and pointed out his hope that our Chadian brothers realize this.

The brother leader of the revolution stated this yesterday in his speech at the meeting of the first grouping of the revolutionary committees movement at their 10th gathering in Tripoli.

On Chad 'Confrontation'

LD070842 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution said in a speech yesterday, at the first grouping of the 10th gathering of the revolutionary committees movement, that in view of the Great Jamahiriyah's being the headquarters of the Arab revolutionary forces' pan-Arab command and the headquarters of the international center for combating imperialism, Zionism, racism, fascism, and reaction, it is only natural that these forces respond to the call for protecting this headquarters when it is the victim of an attack. This is what is happening now, because confrontation is not occurring against the Chadians but is instead taking place against the imperialist forces that are using the Chadians.

Resolves To End Gulf War

LD070905 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution expressed his strong regret at the escalation in the Gulf war and reaffirmed that acts of violence only make the Iraqi and Iranian peoples the losers while benefiting the enemies.

In a speech made at the first grouping of the 10th gathering of the revolutionary committees movement in Tripoli yesterday evening, the leader expressed his resolve to end the Gulf war, pointing out that the Great Jamahiriyah is confident it can perform this historic action. The Iraqi and Iranian peoples can no longer bear the burden of this war.

Condemns U.S. Acts in Panama

LD070908 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Oct (JANA)—The brother leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution has strongly condemned the U.S. intervention in Panama. In a speech yesterday evening in Tripoli at the first grouping of the 10th gathering of the revolutionary committees movement, he reaffirmed that the Great Jamahiriyah stands solidly behind Panama.

Al-Humaydi Receives Iranian Envoy, Note

LD070950 Tehran IRNA in English 0922 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, Oct. 6, IRNA—Iranian ambassador here Mohammad Kazem Khonsari conferred with member of Libya's leadership council Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, in the Libyan capital Tuesday.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Khonsari presented the Libyan official a message from Iranian Minister of Interior Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami concerning the crime committed by the Saudi regime in martyring hundreds of hajj pilgrims and wounding thousands of others.

The Iranian envoy said the blunder made by the Saudi rulers was undoubtedly in line with the U.S. hostility against the Islamic Republic and masterminded by the Great Satan. The July 31 Mecca massacre was part of the tension-creating expansionism of the U.S. forces and will not remain unanswered by world's Muslims, he stressed.

Khonsari lauded the revolutionary stance of Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in condemning the crime perpetrated by the Riyadh government.

U.S. Court Rejects Charge on 1986 Bombing

LD061729 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1646 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] New York, 6 Oct (JANA)—The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected a complaint filed by two sons of the brother leader of the revolution to prevent the U.S. President and senior officials in Washington from committing additional crimes.

The U.S. Supreme Court justified its rejection of the complaint on the pretext that the case falls within a framework of executive measures of a military and political nature.

The complaint, launched by the sons of the brother leader of the revolution, accuses President Reagan and his War Minister, Caspar Weinberger, and former CIA Director William Casey of attempting to assassinate the members of the brother leader of the revolution's family during the barbaric, Atlanticist failed-aggression in the month of April 1986.

French Wish To Impede Chad Cease-fire Noted

LD061104 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1009 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Oct (JANA)—A French Defense Ministry spokesman has denied reports circulated by Ndjamena trumpets that Libya was massing forces to confront Chad.

JANA's European affairs editor noted in regard to this statement that the strangest thing it contains is its denial, since this presents two possibilities. The first possibility is that the French Defense Ministry is ignorant of the activities of the French intelligence apparatus, which fabricated the news of this troop massing and supplied its trumpets in Ndjamena with this report to recirculate, claiming it was based on confirmed information. This possibility would confirm the disorder that is taking place in France's official apparatus.

The second possibility is that the French Defense Ministry is fully aware of the scheme carried out by the French intelligence apparatus but that the schism between French Defense Ministry officials has made them expose both themselves and the scheme that has the African Continent as its objective. This possibility would also confirm the disorder taking place in the French official apparatus.

The editor stressed that what is established and confirmed is that France, which is occupying Chad, is trying to firmly establish this occupation by circulating rumors and unfounded news via its intelligence apparatus and the trumpets of its agents in Ndjamena with the aim of undermining the cease-fire and hitting the OAU's efforts.

Mauritania

Government Denies Reports of Famine

AB051623 Paris AFP in French 1354 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Nouakchott, 5 Oct (AFP)—The Mauritanian Government today denied that some regions in the country have been hit by famine, but stated that the northern and central regions were declared disaster areas. In an interview granted to the official daily *Al-Chaab*, Commissioner of Food Security Mohamed Sidya Ould Bah stressed that no one had fallen victim to famine, contrary to some news reports carried by the foreign media.

Mr Ould Bah admitted, however, that some cases of malnutrition involving children and the elderly had been recorded in southern Mauritania's Trarza and Brakna regions. To prevent the situation from worsening, food aid has been dispatched to these areas and milk, butter, and vitamins have been distributed there, Mr Ould Bah stated.

As for the agricultural situation, Mr Ould Bah noted that there were plentiful rainfalls in some regions where arable land is farmed. However, the northern and central regions have been declared disaster areas. The Saudi Red Crescent has pledged to distribute relief aid in these regions.

The commissioner of food security, however, stated that the "food for work" policy would be pursued, because, he said, it is dangerous to allow citizens to become accustomed to the free distribution of food, particularly since cereal production covers only one-third of the country's needs." [No opening quotation mark as received]

Morocco

King Hassan Meets With 'Arafat Envoy

NC021740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Rabat, 2 Oct (MENA)—Morocco's King Hassan II received a message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat this afternoon. The message was delivered to the king during his meeting with Wajih Hasan Qasim, alias Abu Marwan, who is 'Arafat's envoy and is currently visiting Rabat.

In an exclusive statement to MENA's correspondent in Morocco, Abu Marwan said the message contained the PLO's agreement with King Hassan's call for convening an extraordinary Islamic summit. He added that during their meeting, the king undertook a detailed review of the situation in the Islamic world.

The Palestinian official revealed that Palestinian-Moroccan relations were also reviewed during the meeting. He added: The cloud that had marred these relations since April's PNC session has been removed. I believe that the

king has overcome those differences because of his feelings for the Palestinian issue. 'Arafat's envoy noted that it could be said that Palestinian-Moroccan relations have returned to normal.

It should be recalled that this is the first time that King Hassan II has received a Palestinian official since he delivered a speech following the PNC sessions, which were also attended by a Polisario delegation. The king in this speech had urged Moroccans to leave any meeting in which any Palestinian made a speech concerning the Palestinian issue.

The meeting was attended by Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, the king's advisers, and the interior and information ministers.

Sudan

Finance Minister on IMF, World Bank Talks

JN031609 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1414 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Oct (SUNA)—Minister of Finance Dr Bashir 'Umar has stated that Sudan is expected to obtain loans and donations worth approximately $1.5 billion as a result of an agreement with the IMF and the World Bank. Most of these loans and donations will be devoted to the funding of production and development projects.

This was revealed at a meeting between newspaper owners and the minister of finance yesterday. During the meeting, the minister reviewed the results of his recent talks in Washington with the IMF, the World Bank, and other African, Arab, and world financial institutions.

He pointed out that the talks were successful and added that implementation had actually begun. For example, the ban on $60 million to support the balance of payments had been lifted. Moreover, a loan worth approximately $100 million has been approved. Talks on this loan will begin in Khartoum during the 2d week of November, he added.

The minister said financing of a number of projects has also been approved. These projects include the fourth energy project, the Al-Nubah Mountains agricultural project, the Al-Rusayris reservoir in the Central Region, a project to construct the 'Atbarah-Shindi road in the Northern Region, and the rehabilitation of the Arabic gum industry in the Kordofan Region. He pointed out that during the talks the African Development Bank agreed to extend an $18 million contribution to the financing of the Al-Nubah Mountain project.

The finance minister said Sudan has succeeded in convincing the IMF and the World Bank of the futility of lifting support for some basic commodities, such as oil, sugar, bread, and medicine. He said the IMF and World Bank have agreed to Sudan's proposal that such support should continue on the condition that it is included in the budget and the way to fund it is noted.

In this context, the minister pointed out that the state treasury supports oil and its by-products by approximately 412 million pounds, wheat by approximately 213 million pounds, and sugar by approximately 114 million pounds. He noted that if, for example, support for bread is lifted, the price of one loaf of bread will increase from 16 to 39 piasters.

The minister added that Sudan has managed to convince the IMF and World Bank that the only way to fill the gap between imports and expenditures in the budget, is to reduce expenditures and increase revenues by increasing production and imposing taxes on the people who can pay them, but not at the expense of production costs.

He pointed out that the success of the Sudanese delegation in its recent negotiations with the IMF and the World Bank in Washington is mainly due to the clear view of what Sudan wants and the minimum it can accept, in addition to the availability of a complete statistical view of the Sudanese economy.

The minister said the negotiations resulted in an agreement on postponing the payment of $500 million which Sudan owes the IMF. The failure to pay this sum was the reason Sudan was declared unfit to obtain international loans in 1985. There is also an agreement on filling the gap in the balance of payments, which totals $750 million, through commodity support, a total or partial exemption, or through a cash payment.

The finance minister said Sudan managed to enter into international loan negotiations for the first time with the aim of funding development projects, and not just to support the balance of payments. Moreover, international financial funding and support for Sudan has changed from short-term to medium-term funding that will last 4 years instead of 9 months.

The minister explained that Sudan also managed to convince the two international bodies to alter their position calling for the termination and sale of the public sector's losing projects, so that they will instead be rectified and corrected and become profitable projects.

Regarding the floating of the Sudanese pound, the minister said the Sudanese delegation managed to convince its negotiators that the pound's reduced value is mainly due to imaginary reasons as a result of speculation in the currency markets. He added that it was agreed to fix the Sudanese pound's real value by calculating the real cost of exportation.

Reviews Exchange Rate, Prices

JN031802 Khartoum SUNA in English 1722 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, Oct. 3 (SUNA)—The rate of exchange for the Sudanese pound has been fixed at 4.5 pounds for one U.S. dollar while gasoline prices are put at 9.5 pounds and 10.5 pounds for the super per gallon, an increase of two pounds, Finance and Economic Planning Minister Dr Bashir 'Umar, who returned here recently after taking part in the meetings of the monetary institutions in New York, said in a press conference held here today. The minister pointed that sugar price has been raised from 30 piasters to 50 piasters, an increase of 20 piasters per pound. The minister said the increase comes in conformity with an agreement reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He pointed that money circulation [word indistinct] reduced from 34 percent to 23 percent.

In a press conference today the minister revealed that inflation in the country is swinging between 27 to 29 per cent. He pointed that it was hoped the economy will witness a boost after the increase of direct taxes and a boost in production and a less dependency on foreign backing.

Council of Ministers Ends Gas, Sugar Rationing

EA042023 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers, chaired by the prime minister, Mr Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, met this morning and decided, effective immediately, to remove the rationing of gasoline, in accordance with measures taken by the commission, the public oil corporation, and the regional governors.

As for sugar, the Council of Ministers directed the minister of trade, the commissioner, and the regional governors to complete the administrative and organizational measures necessary to end the rationing of sugar and implement the Council's decision. [Passage omitted]

Students Demonstrate Against Price Increases

NC041925 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1822 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Oct (MENA)—Students demonstrated in Khartoum today to protest the increase in sugar and gasoline prices. Students in the areas of Al-Thawrah and Omdurman went into the streets and stoned pedestrians while shouting slogans against the IMF and the government.

Twenty-five policemen, students, and citizens were injured when student protesters stoned police and the policemen used tear bombs to break up the demonstrations.

The Sudanese opposition parties, represented by the Islamic Front, strongly criticized the finance minister's decision yesterday to increase the prices of sugar and gasoline and devalue the Sudanese pound. The Islamic Front sources, who said that these decisions will have a clear and direct effect on the life of the people and increase their sufferings, added that they were a natural result of the government's weakness vis-a-vis the IMF.

Sources of the Sudanese Communist Party also criticized these decisions, describing them as a capitulation to the IMF, while Sudanese Ba'th Party sources said that the decisions express the government's failure to achieve any economic reforms and to confront what they called the parasitic capitalist factions and the black market gangs. They added that the decisions represent the government's failure to solve the economic problems.

Protest March Staged

JN051451 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Oct (SUNA)—The Khartoum University Student Union and the Secondary Student Union staged a march here today to protest the economic and financial decisions issued by the government over the past 2 days. The demonstrators chanted slogans against the IMF and World Bank and condemned the recent economic policies.

A delegation of the Khartoum University Student Union submitted a memorandum to the prime minister. The memorandum was handed to the minister of presidential affairs who promised to study it.

The union announced in the memorandum that the conditions set by the IMF and the World Bank are aimed against the dignity of the Sudanese people. The memorandum also called for the suspension of the new decisions. The head of the union said that the students will continue their marches day and night until the government meets their demands.

SUNA has learned that the march ended safely and no clashes took place between demonstrators and the police force which was watching the march. Students condemning the recent economic decisions also demonstrated in other areas of Khartoum.

Minister Says Demonstrations Unjustified

JN061212 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Student demonstrations prompted many citizens to participate in these demonstrations. As a result, some acts of sabotage were perpetrated, the most prominent of which were the burning of the premises of the Democratic Unionist Party on Kubri Shambat [name as received] Street in Khartoum North, damage to the

Al-Sha'biyyah post office in Khartoum North, havoc at the local council in the Kuku quarter of Khartoum North, and the burning of a government vehicle in Omdurman.

In the evening, demonstrators set fire to tires in front of Al-Mirghani's house and chanted slogans against State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani.

Large numbers of male and female citizens participated in yesterday's demonstrations in both Khartoum North and Omdurman.

The *Al-Jaridah* newspaper quoted Dr Adam Madibu, industry minister [title as received] and member of the Executive Committee of the Al-Ummah Party, as saying that the demonstrations are unjustifiable. He said the resolutions issued after the agreement with the IMF were taken to serve the peoples' interests and seek to provide consumer commodities to the citizens. He indicated that legal measures, in accordance with the emergency laws, would be taken against those who participated in the demonstrations. He also said that those behind the staging of these demonstrations for political purposes will be exposed.

The commissioner of the national capital has closed all schools until further notice following the clashes which erupted between elements of the Al-Ummah Party and the National Islamic Front.

In another development, the central committee of the general union [not further identified] has decided to hold an emergency meeting of its general assembly to adopt a proposal on staging a march in which all employee and professional unions would participate and issuing a statement rejecting the government's latest economic decisions.

The *Al-Jaridah* newspaper quoted a responsible source at the national capital's commission as saying that the commission was harmed by the latest decision, as it would deprive the commission of its own resources, due to the government's withdrawal of the gasoline cards which used to provide the commission with 4 million Sudanese pounds every year.

Decree Issued on Closure of Khartoum Schools

EA051903 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Mr Karam Muhammad Karam, commissioner of the national capital, issued a decree today on the student activities that the national capital witnessed yesterday and today. We present the text of the decree:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Statement for the citizens in the national capital:

In connection with the student demonstrations and the events that accompanied them, which included the destruction of public property by students or elements which sneaked among them, and for the protection of lives and properties, it has been decided to close classes in all academic and technical schools in the national capital. This applies to all government, people, and private schools at all levels.

This is effective from tomorrow, Tuesday, 6 October 1987, until such time as another decree is issued. School principals and teachers are supposed to be present dutifully and continuously at their schools during official working hours. May God grant us success.

Al-Mahdi Defends Coalition, Price Hikes

JN051816 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1718 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Oct (SUNA)—Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi made a statement before the Constituent Assembly this morning in which he dealt with the country's political and economic situation. He reviewed the government issue and fully explained the coalition government. His excellency said that agreement during the past period on a national unity government took place in accordance with the national trend. He said it was also accomplished through periodic meetings with parties, memorandums of understanding, definition of responsibilities, dealing with the problem of the south, economic planning, and constitutional amendments.

He added that shelving the idea of the national government took place after several parties expressed reservations. In his statement, he also talked about the alternative laws, adding: We want them to be worked out in accordance with the Sudanese way and view.

Al-Mahdi touched on peaceful efforts to contain the war in the south, pointing to the message sent to him by former Nigerian President Obasanjo and Ugandan President Museveni's envoy. He also referred to the Sudanese African parties delegation, which has recently returned from East Africa.

The prime minister also said that his government has prepared [words indistinct] to confront economic problems and that these changes covered a group of advisers in the state's executive organs. He also reviewed the economic deterioration, referring to the deficit, the scarcity price, and the absence of surpluses for financing development.

His excellency also said that his government has achieved [words indistinct]. He pointed out that the elimination of internal and external deficit can be achieved only by reducing domestic expenditure and restricting imports.

Regarding the recent agreement with the IMF, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that the government had refused to devalue the Sudanese pound and agreed to unify the exchange price. He said that the social dimension in the agreement is represented by continuing the subsidy of other important commodities, reviewing wages, and increasing the minimum level of income and salaries.

His excellency added that the agreement will lead to the removal of the scarcity price in the markets and will promote exports without the Treasury's subsidy. He added that it will also guarantee the flow of industrial and agricultural revenues by means of the available development opportunities.

Concluding his statement, he said that increasing the prices of gasoline and sugar is not meant to provoke anyone, but is a remedy required for the economy.

Islamic Front, Unions Oppose Economic Policy

JN061858 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1726 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Oct (SUNA)—The opposition National Islamic Front [NIF] has urged the government to reconsider its agreement with the IMF. In a statement issued today by its economic bureau, the NIF called for economic policies and programs to confront the country's deteriorating economy. The statement also called for policies and measures, in light of devaluation of the Sudanese currency, to encourage exports, promote the export sector, and frame an effective foreign policy to end dependence on the IMF.

The statement urged the government to adopt firm and realistic policies to restore expatriate confidence in the government in order to attract their savings and invest them in the best way possible. It also urged the government to reconsider investment institutions and laws to attract Arab and Islamic capital.

The statement said the country's current acute economic crisis requires a comprehensive economic program, adding that the absence of serious government efforts to confront this problem, and its resort to contradictory policies, have led to further deterioration and complications.

In another development, the General Federation of Sudanese Trade Unions expressed its dissatisfaction with the outcome of the recent agreement between the government and the IMF. In a statement issued today, it said that the workers, who represent an important sector of Sudanese society, have suffered greatly from economic measures that reduce their income. It urged the government to deal with the gap between their income and the cost of living by giving suitable compensation in both the public and private sectors.

It is noteworthy that after returning from his talks with the IMF and World Bank, the minister of finance announced a 66 percent increase in sugar prices and a 29 percent hike in the price of gasoline. In light of the agreement, the Sudanese pound was devalued from 2.5 to 4.5 to the U.S. dollar. Students demonstrated in the capital over the past 2 days to protest the price increases in these commodities. As a result, all schools in Khartoum were closed.

Economic Officials Reject Agreement With IMF

JN061855 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Oct (SUNA)—The General Federation of Administrators in the economic sector has announced its rejection of the recent agreement with the IMF. In a statement issued today, the Federation condemned the government's position as a capitulation to IMF policies. It urged the government to reject these policies and respect the will of the Sudanese people. It also stressed its support for the popular movement in this regard. The statement said that the new financial and monetary policies will serve the parasites. The statement added that implementation of the recommendations of the National Economic Conference is the best alternative and the best way to redress the national economy.

The statement said that devaluation of the Sudanese pound and the increase in prices of consumer goods and strategic commodities will reduce the income of individuals and will make the masses poorer and more miserable.

State of Emergency in Force 'As From Today'

JN061832 Khartoum SUNA in English 1755 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, Oct 6 —(SUNA)—The Constituent Assembly has endorsed the state of emergency regulations declared last June and amended on Sept. 1987. [date as received]

The state of emergency laws will come into force as from today.

It is to be recalled that the declaration of the state of emergency was not favourably received in particular those articles thought to endanger basic freedoms, the said articles were dropped by the Assembly in Sept. 27.

Tunisia

Appeals Court Rejects Death Sentence Appeal

LD061704 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] In Tunis this morning the Appeals Court rejected an appeal by two condemned to death in the Tunis fundamentalists trial. This was stated by the lawyer for one of those sentenced. Their only remaining possibility is a presidential pardon.

Foreign Minister Meets With Shultz, Soviet

LD041458 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Excerpt] New York, 3 Oct (TAP)—Yesterday, in a bilateral meeting, Mr Hedi Mabrouk, minister of foreign affairs, reviewed with his U.S. counterpart, Mr George Shultz, issues of mutual interest and developments in the region in light of recent international developments.

Mr Hedi Mabrouk also conferred with the chairman of the Soviet delegation, Mr Vladimir Petrovskiy, Soviet deputy foreign minister. The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the good developments in bilateral relations in all fields. They also talked about issues of mutual interest on the UN General Assembly agenda, especially the Iraq-Iran war and the problems of the Middle East and Western Sahara. [Passage omitted]

Bourguiba Receives Moroccan Prime Minister 1 Oct

LD021520 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Excerpts] This morning His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba received Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, special envoy of King Hassan II to the supreme combatant, President Habib Bourguiba. He was accompanied by Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Boutaleb, counselor to the Moroccan king.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Rachid Sfar; Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, minister of interior; Amor Chedli, minister director of the presidential office; Fouad Mbazza, the Tunisian ambassador to Morocco; and Mohamed Bouli, Moroccan charge d'affaires in Tunis.

Before leaving the Presidential Palace in Carthage, Azzedine Laraki said: I had the honor of meeting His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba. I carried a written message from His Majesty King Hassan II to his excellency which is within the framework of customary consultation and mutual support between the two countries, as well as the exchange of views on issues of mutual interest which concern the region.

Rachid Sfar also had talks with Dr Azzedine Laraki, who was accompanied by Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Boutaleb. [Passage omitted] The meeting was an opportunity to review bilateral relations, ways to bolster them, the situation in the Arab Maghreb, and a number of issues of mutual interest.

Inter-Gulf Affairs

Iranian Boat Attacks Saudi Tanker in Dubayy

JN070914 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In London the British insurance company Lloyds announced that a Saudi oil tanker, the (*Ra'd al-Barq VIII*), was attacked at 0100 today local time by an Iranian speedboat while the Saudi tanker was at Dubayy port. Lloyds did not provide any details on damage sustained by the tanker.

Sources in Manama, citing Gulf shipping sources, also reported the Iranian speedboat's attack on the tanker. The sources, however, did not disclose the identity of the oil tanker or the circumstances of the attack. The shipping sources merely picked up SOS calls from the captain of the oil tanker.

2d Vessel Attacked Off UAE

JN071010 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Three Iranian speedboats attacked a large Saudi oil tanker near Dubayy at dawn today. The tanker was sailing for Jeddah. The damage it sustained is not yet known.

Also at dawn today, an Iranian speedboat attacked a cargo ship whose identity is not known. The cargo ship was sailing in the waters of the Amirate of Sharjah, of the UAE.

Kuwait

Foreign Minister Meets USSR's Petrovskiy

LD070845 Kuwait KUNA in English 0801 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] United Nations, Oct 7 (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah Tuesday met with the Soviet deputy foreign minister, Vladimir Petrovskiy.

During the one-hour meeting, the two officials discussed the efforts being undertaken now by the Security Council's five permanent members to implement Resolution 598, calling for an immediate ceasefire between Iraq and Iran.

The Council's five permanent members are the Soviet Union, the United States, France, Britain and China.

USSR Blamed for UN Resolution's Failure

LD071013 Kuwait KUNA in English 0840 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, Oct 7 (KUNA)—Criticizing the stances of the Soviet Union and Iran toward the on going Iraq-Iran war, a Kuwaiti daily Wednesday stressed that the current situation in the Gulf region does not tolerate such stances.

Al-Ra'y al-'Amm said the Soviet Union once again stands alone in the arena, while American, French and British pressures increase to take a collective stance that confirms credibility and ensures the need to end the war.

The paper charged the Soviet Union of being responsible for the failure of the United Nation's Security Council of executing its Resolution 598 to stop the Gulf war, which entered the eighth year last month.

Al-Ra'y al-'Amm said, "The Soviet Union wants to tell Iran that the American presence in the Gulf does not mean anything, where in the meantime the Soviet tries to score new points by drawing up unclear stances either outside or inside the international organization".

The current situation does not tolerate such policies and it forcefully presses for peace, the paper stressed.

The daily warned that plots to convert the ongoing conflict in the northern side of the Gulf into a second copy of the Arab-Israeli conflict, will not change facts of history nor geography, however, it may increase possibilities of Arab unity that would deter the break out of another pan Arab tragedy.

'Source' Denies Rumored GCC Summit Delay

LD061429 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1332 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Oct (KUNA)—A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that no political source in Kuwait has made any statement concerning the postponement of the forthcoming GCC summit due to its coincidence with the emergency Arab summit due to be held in Amman.

The source was commenting to KUNA on reports by *Reuter* that attributed the statement to sources it described as political sources in Kuwait concerning the postponement of the forthcoming GCC summit until December —instead of its original date in November— to avoid any coincidance with the emergency Arab summit scheduled to be convened on 8 November in the Jordanian capital.

The source explained that the date of the coming GCC summit was fixed through consultations between the member states and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the

host country, at a stage prior to the Arab foreign ministers' decision at their emergency meeting in Tunis to hold the Arab summit in November in Amman.

The source affirmed that due to these facts, all that has been said about postponing the upcoming GCC summit is merely unfounded speculation.

Saudi Arabia

Reportage on Prince Sa'ud Visit to Canada

For reportage on events during the visit of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to Canada, including the signing of an economic agreement, see the Canada section of the 6 October *West Europe Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

'Aziz Note to UN Head Urges Iran Sanctions

JN070639 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Iraq has strongly denounced the Iranian regime's crimes against civilians in Iraq due to its shelling strictly residential areas in Iraqi cities. The latest of these crimes is the launching of two surface-to-surface missiles against Baghdad the night before last [5 October].

In a message conveyed to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday, Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, warned against the Iranian regime's evil plans being carried out at a time while the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general are exerting efforts to find means to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598. 'Aziz urged the UN Security Council to carefully examine these Iranian actions. He pointed out that the evil Iranian regime, which violated the law and which is hostile to humanity, insists on continuing the war, destruction, and killing.

He said the number of martyrs due to Iran's shelling of residential areas in Iraq between 20 July and 5 October has now reached 284. This figure includes 41 women and 45 children. He added that 1,165 citizens were wounded, including 196 women and 217 children. This is in addition to the vast destruction of civilian facilities such as houses, schools, mosques, and hospitals.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister also urged the UN Security Council to decisively impose sanctions on the criminal Iranian regime in accordance with the UN Charter. He stressed that this action is a necessary step to safeguard peace and stability in the region, to maintain international law, and to respect the UN Security Council and the United Nations.

'Aziz drew attention to his messages of 3 and 4 September in which he stressed that the hostile and expansionist Iranian regime gives primary priority to waging the war of cities. 'Aziz in this regard referred to the several messages sent by the permanent Iraqi mission in New York to the UN secretary general since 20 July—the date on which UN Security Council Resolution 598 was issued—messages that stressed the Iranian regime's continued shelling of strictly residential areas in Iraq, particularly in the city of Basra.

King Husayn Arrives for Talks; Departs

JN061730 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan arrived in Baghdad today. His majesty was accorded an official reception, with President Saddam Husayn at the head of those who received his majesty. Also present were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; the RCC members; a number of comrade members of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; the chief of the Presidential Office; the ministers; the Jordanian ambassador to Baghdad; and the embassy staff.

King Husayn is accompanied by a delegation comprising Zayd al-Rifa'i, the prime minister; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, the court minister; and Tahir al-Masri, the foreign minister.

President Saddam Husayn and King Husayn held a round of talks on the strong fraternal relations and ongoing preparations to convene the Arab summit decided upon by the Arab foreign minsters to be held in Amman on 8 November to discuss developments in the Iraq-Iran war and Iran's aggression against the Arabian Gulf states.

President Saddam Husayn also held a dinner banquet in honor of King Husayn and his accompanying delegation.

King Husayn then departed Baghdad following a short visit to Iraq. President Saddam Husayn led those who bade his majesty farewell. Also present were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, culture and information minister; Ahmad Husayn, chief of the Presidential Office; and the president's secretary.

Gulf Operations, Air Strikes Continue

Aircraft Denied Downed

JN061518 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Oct (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iran's claims of downing another Iraqi aircraft yesterday. In a statement to INA this evening, the spokesman said that all Iraqi aircraft carrying out their missions yesterday returned safely to base.

He added that what the media of charlatanism in Tehran says on this subject is baseless and exists only in their sick minds. The Iraqi spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers to just once present one single piece of evidence to prove their claims.

Iran Claims on Kifri Denied

JN061614 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Oct (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has refuted Iranian claims concerning fighting in the city of Kifri. In a statement to INA this evening, the Iraqi spokesman said: From the time the Iranians concocted these lies we have been refuting them before public opinion. We have stated that the Iranian regime, which has failed to achieve any victory on the battlefield, resorts to baseless lies.

The spokesman added that some agents who take money from the Iranian regime exploit the Iranian rulers' ignorance and the mullahs' retarded minds to fabricate stories and to obtain money in exchange for imaginary operations since the crooks—who live in cities—deal with naive people who come to these cities from villages.

The military spokesman added: The important thing that we would like to emphasize is that when the Iranian regime yesterday challenged us and asked journalists to press us to organize a tour of Kifri city, we organized this tour and invited the ones the Iranian Government wanted to take this tour at our own expense. The Iranian regime felt that it was trapped and thus today issued a number of statements on Kifri. The purpose of these statements was to say one thing only, namely, that the forces they had claimed were occupying Kifri had now withdrawn. The Iraqi spokesman asked: Why did these forces withdraw? Is this a donation from the Iranian rulers?

In conclusion, the Iraqi spokesman said the Iranian people and public opinion should know full well that their government is unique in fabricating lies and is unmatched in ignorance and mental retardation.

Communique No 2,862 Issued

JN061800 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,862 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces express with their bravery and efficient performance Iraq's strength and pride in the face of its enemies as well as this free, honest country's capability to confront the Zionist Khomeyniite clique, attain their rights, and achieve peace.

The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. The brave helicopter knights today carried out 28 combat sorties, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in personnel, equipment, and weapons. Our knights and their aircraft then returned safely, praise be to God.

2. Our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah pounded enemy units opposite them and achieved the following: two infantry positions destroyed and their crews killed; one vehicle burned and damaged; one grader and one Poclain excavator damaged; and one ammunition dump blown up.

3. Three enemy personnel were killed, one observation post was destroyed, and one ammunition dump was blown up in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

4. Four infantry positions were destroyed and their crews killed in the sector of the Special I Army Corps—the Allahu Akbar Forces.

5. One enemy soldier was killed in the VII Army Corps.

6. The criminal Iranian enemy last night fired two rockets, supplied by Zionism and the enemies of the Arab nation, on two residential areas in Baghdad. As a result, a number of civilians were martyred, others were wounded, and a number of houses and shops were damaged.

The criminal enemy also shelled Qal'at Dizah with long-range artillery. As a result, a number of civilians were martyred and others were wounded. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and swift recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 October 1987

'Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN061844 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1835 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Statement by a military spokesman on 6 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To deprive the Zionist Iranian regime of its oil supplies, which are exploited both for aggression against our country and for undermining regional security and stability, our daring aircraft launched a successful raid against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1830 [1530 GMT] today. After scoring an accurate, effective blow, all our aircraft returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

[Date] 6 October 1987

Iran Opposition Acts Noted

JN041356 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Iranian National Liberation Army [INLA] units seized several positions and bases belonging to the Iranian regime during attacks south of Qasr-e Shirin last Friday [2 October].

Radio Mojahed, mouthpiece of the Iranian opposition organization Mojahedin-e Khalq, said today that INLA units attacked positions and bases of the 81st Division's 3d Brigade's 2d and 3d Shiran Forces of the 166th Regiment. The radio added that 25 defensive emplacements and all of their equipment and personnel were destroyed, while 56 Iranian regime soldiers were killed, with 64 wounded and 70 captured.

Peres Congratulates Mubarak on Reelection
TA061905 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1830 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] This evening Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres sent a letter of congratulations to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak upon his reelection for a 6-year term.

In his letter the foreign minister says: You have led Egypt to extremely impressive achievements both domestically and abroad. You have built bridges toward overall peace in our region, and I am looking forward to continuing the cooperation toward peace and to deepening Israeli-Egyptian relations.

Editorial Censures 'Abd al-Majid on U.S.'Move'
TA051505 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 4 Oct 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The 'Active' Partner—Beware of Him"]

[Text] The report is very routine, or so it seems. It contains a statement by Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid published yesterday by the Cairo-based newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah*. Dr 'Abd al-Majid says that during his New York meetings with the foreign ministers of the five great countries, he sensed a unanimity on convening an international conference.

It is a very ordinary statement. But what is not ordinary, or rather very irrational, is for the "U.S. move"—as Dr 'Abd Al- Majid says—to be carried out within this framework. This refers to Secretary of State George Shultz' upcoming visit to the Middle East region, which Shultz described as signifying a U.S. commitment to its position as an "active" partner in the peace process.

Anyone reading this statement would imagine that the United States is eager to establish a just, durable, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and that nothing else remains, except for Shultz to arrive in the region to give the glad tidings of this coming peace.

Before discussing the position of the United States, the "active" partner, we would like to reaffirm that as Palestinians we totally support the concept of convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East, attended by the Security Council's five permanent member states and the parties involved in the region's conflict, including the PLO as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people—and that this conference should have the authority to make binding decisions without being used as an umbrella for holding suspect "direct negotiations" that will reverse the problem of dozens of years, increasing its compexity and intricacy.

Let us return to the "position" adhered to by the United States as an "active" partner in the peace process, as stated by the Egyptian foreign minister. It is common knowledge that the United States continues to spew animosity and hatred at the Palestinians and their just cause. There is much proof of this, the latest being the U.S. Administration's closing of the PLO information office in Washington.

Those of you who talk about the "U.S. move" within the framework of the international conference, what role can the United States play at this conference if it is convened?

The "U.S. move" will not advance even one tiny step the benefit of the Palestinians and the entire Arab nation. Therefore, beware of the "active" U.S. partner.

Al-Asad Releases 5 Alleged Jewish Spies
TA061157 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Oct 87 pp A1, 2

[Report by Shefi Gabay]

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad recently ordered the release from extended imprisonment of five members of the Jewish community in Damascus who had been suspected of spying. They were not put on trial as is the custom in Syria, according to *Al-Tali 'Ah al-'Arabiyah*, the Paris weekly which specializes in reports from Syria.

According to the report, the five Jews were released as a result of intervention by foreign dignitaries, lead by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

But other Western sources who confirmed the report said the five Jews were the victims of internal Syrian intrigue. Certain individuals tried to accuse them of smuggling and dealing in foreign currency. According to the sources, it is Al-Asad who has lately been protecting the Jewish communities in Damascus and Al-Qamshili, although they still face very grave restrictions.

The weekly, which is published by Syrian expatriates in Europe, reported for the first time secret documents according to which Al-Asad, in 1974, released 23 Syrian citizens who had some sort of contacts with Israel. A military court had sentenced them to life imprisonment with hard labor.

According to the weekly, they were suddenly released under three presidential orders, which included a special pardon also permitting them to leave Syria. The weekly claims that some even reached Israel. One of the three orders, printed in the weekly under Al-Asad's signature from 20 February 1974, forbids those responsible for carrying out the orders from making the pardons public.

Border Changes in Southern Lebanon Denied
TA061743 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Security sources in the north say that Israel has not made any changes in the international border line. The sources say that routine construction in the defense

system along the northern border is being conducted, and that as early as this week measures will be taken that will enable farmers in the village of 'Alma al-Sha'b to recultivate their land.

Lebanon had accused Israel of annexing areas of southern Lebanon and of changing the international border line. Nabih Birri, the minister in charge of south Lebanese affairs, sent a cable to the UN secretary general demanding the establishment of an international committee to look into the matter.

Shultz Warned on Ignoring 'Palestinian Factor'
TA051313 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in English 4 Oct 87 p 5

[Editorial: "Face the Reality"]

[Text] The United States is putting its reputation at stake once again by sending the secretary of state to negotiate a peace settlement in the Middle East?

This is very doubtful. The United States has learned from its last fumble in Lebanon not to get too involved in hot Middle East spots without first assuring the consent of all the parties involved, regardless of their size or ideology. So why is U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz coming to this region?

Some reports say Shultz is coming to Israel to persuade Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to agree to an international peace confernce on the Middle East as defined by Shamir's partner in government, Labor leader Shim'on Peres.

But it did not take Shamir long to tell Shultz and the United States what he really thinks of the upcoming visit. "I assume the U.S. State Department people know my position, and they certainly are not coming here to argue," Shamir was quoted as saying.

If Shultz really wanted to put pressure on Shamir, he would have done it from the U.S. rather than risk being told off by an adamant and stubborn Shamir.

Shultz' visit to Israel, therefore, as was simply stated by State Department deputy spokeswoman, Phyllis Oakley: "The secretary will be conferred with honorary degrees from the Weizman Institute and from Tel Aviv University on October 18."

In the end, the visit to Israel is merely ceremonial rather than a working visit. It also comes with an eye on the approaching U.S. presidential elections and the growing competition among presidential contenders from both major parties for Israel's, and the Jewish community's, blessings and votes.

In his visit to the area, Shultz will also go to Egypt and Jordan—two countries friendly to the United States. He will try to reassure both governments of the total U.S. commitment to the survival of their regimes. He will also try to persuade them to act 'boldly' like former Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat, agreeing to Shamir's idea of a regional conference which would include Israel, Jordan and Egypt, only. The regional conference is Shamir's alternative to Peres's limited international conference which the United States is not too keen about anyway.

Egypt no longer has any quarrel with Israel and it has openly said so. Jordan, on the other hand, also has no quarrel with Israel, but has yet to say it openly. Shultz, it is expected, will use his power to pressure Jordan to enter into direct negitiations with Israel. He will assure the Jordanians that neither Palestinian nor Arab opposition will harm Jordan if it decides to take this step.

Jordan, however, should not forget how Shultz got his fingers burned in Lebanon when he pressured the Lebanese president into signing a separate peace pact with Israel in 1985, the last time he was in the Middle East. That peace pact was later canceled by the Lebanese president following very stong internal and external opposition which nearly toppled the regime there.

So what remains is very simple. Shultz should not forget that the key to Middle East peace is not Egypt or Jordan, or even Israel, but the Palestinians. What the Palestinians want is what will determine the future status of this region. The Palestinians laid their cards on the table a long time ago. They put down exactly what they want, accommodating every party involved in this endless Palestinian-Israeli-Arab conflict.

Shultz and everybody else should accept these facts, face reality, and consider the Palestinian factor in their future plans. A mere Palestinian delegation from the occupied territories acceptable to Israel will not suffice if it does not have the blessing and support of the Palestinians here and in exile. Nor will it succeed if it deviates from the platform of the Palestine National Council.

Thatcher Termed 'Depressed' by Shamir Views
TA070733 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Report by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] Although U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz announced that he would not interfere in the domestic political dispute in Israel, the British Government makes no secret of its preference among the various components of the national unity government.

A few months ago, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sent a message to Prime Minister Shamir, urging him to support the convocation of an international conference. And 2 days ago, Minister of State for the Home Office David Mellor expressed his feelings in a rather blunt and undiplomatic way when he said: We feel depressed about Yitzhaq Shamir's views on the peace conference. We prefer the position of your foreign minister, Shim'on Peres. Prime Minister Thatcher feels even more strongly about this.

The position of minister of state is equivalent to that of an Israeli deputy minister.

Mellor added that the United Kingdom wants to continue to play an active role in promoting the political process. We now have the opportunity to make progress, and we should not let it slip by, said Mellor. He again cited Mrs Thatcher, saying: Mrs Thatcher is concerned about the situation in the territories and its effect on Israel. The fact that 45 percent of the population of Israel and the territories is Arab is a cause for concern. It is a dangerous situation.

The report dispatched by the Israeli Embassy in London on the meeting notes that Minister Ya'aqov Tzur pointed out to his host that the Likud, too, supports negotiations with Jordan, but only direct negotiations. Mellor responded: Obviously this formula will be rejected by the Arabs immediately. It is true that Husayn has grown stronger, but he nevertheless cannot repeat Al-Sadat's move. It is only through a conference that the monarch can score achievements that would not cost him his life.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's office refused to comment on the content of the Mellor-Tzur conversation. But Likud-affiliated sources told us: It is not surprising that the British supports an international conference. It provides them with a foothold in the Middle East and grants them a status they would never have enjoyed otherwise.

Malta Appoints Zim Executive Honorary Consul

TA061217 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Oct 87 p 4

[Report from Haifa by Qobi Mandel]

[Text] Zim Director General Mati Morgenstern was recently appointed honorary consul in Israel by the president of Malta and its foreign minister. The letter of accreditation, signed by the president and foreign minister, was presented to President Hayim Herzog on the eve of the Jewish High Holidays.

The appointment was approved by the president and by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Malta does not have representation in Israel and the consulate, which will be situated in Haifa, will be Malta's only official representation in Israel.

Rabin Attacks Likud Stand on Lavi Project

TA061834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has warned that Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] could go bankrupt unless the government decision to wind up the Lavi project is implemented without further delay. Appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Rabin accused Likud ministers of inciting the IAI workers and giving them the illusion that the Lavi project can be revived. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] I cannot remember a single case in the past when Cabinet ministers urged workers to fight against an expressed decision of the government, Defense Minister Rabin said, in a reference to yesterday's appearance by Ari'el Sharon and Yitzhaq Moda'i before the IAI workers. Instead of helping IAI to reorganize, so that a maximum number of solutions can be found, Rabin said, these ministers are inciting the workers and giving them the idea that the Lavi project is not dead.

There are many alternative projects available, the defense minister said. But I have no money for them as long as the Lavi project has not been closed down, and I will not spend one cent of the defense budget on the Lavi. As chief purchaser I shall use every legal power at my disposal to end the project. And I shall be very sorry if external factors make it difficult for the IAI management to fulfill its duty.

Rabin warned that if there is a crisis in the IAI, the firm could go bankrupt. If the incitement continues, he said, it could end badly. I would not like it to finish under receivership, because then the treatment of the workers will be very different from what it is now.

As for the efforts of former Cabinet minister Moshe Arens to raise private funds for the Lavi in the United States, Rabin said Arens was acting without any authority and anyone who bought the idea would be throwing away his money. Although there were Likud Knesset members present at the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, nobody came to the defense of Ari'el Sharon, Moshe Arens and Yitzhaq Moda'i. [End recording]

'Amirav: No Further Talks With PLO Supporters

TA070522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Likud member Moshe 'Amirav has retracted his statement that Herut leaders and, specifically, the head of the Prime Minister's Office, Tzahi Hanegbi, knew of his contacts with PLO supporters.

'Amirav also expressed regret that the episode caused damage to his party, and promised he would hold no further such meetings. As a result, the Herut disciplinary court has decided to cancel its proceedings against him.

Shomron Interviewed on Arab Terrorism, Lebanon

TA032103 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Interview with Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, chief of the IDF General Staff, by military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Shlonsky] There has recently been a feeling that Arab terrorism has increased in Judaea and Samaria, and also inside the Green Line areas—the case of

Alex Arad at the Meggido junction, the incident near 'Akko, the two children in Ramat Hasharon. Is this just a feeling, or are there facts, too?

[Shomron] First of all, concerning the feeling, that is a fact. There is such a feeling, and I say that this feeling is very important. If we are speaking about dry statistical data, there has not been any change this year. It is also better, even with the current developments, than other, harder years, such as 1985.

I do not think, however, that this is any consolation. Terrorist activity from the territories, inside the territories themselves, and inside Israel within the Green Line borders is a complicated, multifaceted problem and dealing with one of its facets, even if it is done thoroughly, could have a bad effect on another of them. For example, if we selectively ban the entry of residents of the territories into Israel for work purposes, we will increase security.

[Shlonsky] Do you support such a move?

[Shomron] No. In my opinion, the second part, or the second facet of that problem is that we would cause a certain amount of unemployment inside the territories. We would cause more serious problems inside the territories, which would, of course, rebound on us as security problems within the territories. Therefore, dealing with this complicated problem has many dimensions and any treatment of one facet of it has an effect on another one or on other places. So this problem is not a simple one.

[Shlonsky] Are you referring mainly to local terrorism, or to terrorism which, as Minister Sharon claims, comes from headquarters in the PLO offices in Amman?

[Shomron] There is a link between the activity being carried out from the territories and directives, guidance of one type or another from the outside. Certainly, the PLO also claims responsibility for a considerable amount of the activities.

[Shlonsky] Is the focus really in Amman?

[Shomron] I cannot say that it is actually in Amman. I would say that most of it is not in Amman, but it certainly does come from the outside and is committed by the PLO, that is true.

[Shlonsky] Not local terrorism, but guided terrorism?

[Shomron] For the most part it is local terrorism, and some of it is guided from the outside.

A large part of it is also unguided. It is initiated internally. The motivation does exist inside. I would like to say, nevertheless, that prevention of that problem—and each and every such incident is serious per se; an accumulation of incidents is certainly serious and causes a feeling, and I think it is very important to relate to that feeling—prevention is first and foremost through the security services.

They are the ones who are capable of finding the needle in the haystack. They are doing so, and doing it well. The IDF is a deterrent, preserving law and order in the territories and preventing a large number of those attacks and murders, as are the citizens of Israel and the citizens who are residents of the territories, through their alertness.

[Shlonsky] What do you suggest to the young people? Not to hitch-hike? Do you suggest that young people learn karate? Should they continue living normally, continue to take trips around Israel, or to fear? To think twice, to carry weapons?

[Shomron] Normal life in Israel, but with alertness, with the realistic awareness that in our situation terrorism is not something that ends in a day.

[Shlonsky] About 2 weeks ago three IDF soldiers were killed in the course of IDF activity in Lebanon, and the IDF and the press took care to publicize how courageously the soldiers acted during the incident. Nevertheless several questions arise in this connection regarding the surprise factor. It is quite clear that the IDF was surprised when it reached the area, and the rescue took so much time. Have you also given thought to these things?

[Shomron] Look, first of all you must understand that in fighting terrorists, almost any activity begins with an encounter. It is not a permanent terrorist's position that we intend to attack on our initiative. Our reports speak about areas through which they will infiltrate or pass through. In the end there is an encounter. The encounter situation can be in our favor from the beginning or it can be against us.

[Shlonsky] Yes, but we will always want not to be in such inferior conditions as we...

[Shomron, interrupting] We very much want that, but in fighting in the security zone, we cannot guarantee what we would like. In most cases we succeed. Over the past 6 months five IDF soldiers have been killed, to our sorrow, but more than 100 terrorists have been killed. That is, in most of the cases we have the initial advantage.

[Shlonsky] What about that incident?

[Shomron] It is true that in that incident the encounter began in a situation that was not in our favor. That can happen. After every encounter there are also lessons, after every encounter.

[Shlonsky] Looking back, was it a situation that could have been avoided?

[Shomron] That is exactly what I want to tell you. Let us say that now, after all the lessons, we repeat that same action. There is no guarantee that we would not begin with an unfavorable encounter. That is a point I would like to stress. With an accumulation of different actions, however, we raise the chances of an encounter in which we have the initial advantage.

[Shlonsky] From the viewpoint of the general situation in the security zone, apart from the incident that occurred 2 weeks ago, is it calm? Is it a stable situation, or are there ups and downs?

[Shomron] In my view, the situation in the security zone is good. This is the calmest area in Lebanon. The area's economic situation is also good. Perhaps that is what explains the calm. The calm is an interest shared by us and the inhabitants of the security zone.

[Shlonsky] But it is not in the interests of the Hizballah and the Palestinians.

[Shomron] Of course. But their interests exist whether there is a security zone or not. The difference is that when a security zone does exist, it disrupts their activity against the northern settlements and, in the final analysis, everything is built around the aim of safeguarding the northern settlements.

[Shlonsky] If the level of the Southern Lebanese Army [SLA] is improved, will the IDF take the soldiers out of Lebanon? Will it leave the control of the security zone to the SLA?

[Shomron] By the way, the SLA is constantly improving. It is also learning lessons. We are helping it to learn. The more of a replacement there is for the IDF or...[changes thought] just because forces beyond the security zone do not try to attack or because the SLA can prevent this by itself, the IDF will always aim at taking its forces out of the security zone, to the extent that it is possible. [passage omitted]

Shin Bet Man, 'Terrorists' Killed in Gaza

TA070913 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0830 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Here is an item that just came in. A Shin Bet officer was killed last night in a clash between an IDF unit and security men and a terrorist squad in Gaza. Four terrorists were killed in the clash. The Shin Bet man who was killed is Victor Rajwan of Beersheva. He will be buried today at 1330 at the Beersheva cemetery. The funeral procession will leave from his parents' home. Here is our correspondent Alon Ben-David with details on last night's clash in Gaza:

The clash occurred last night at around 2130 in the (Saja'iyah) quarter in Gaza. Two of the terrorists who were killed escaped from Gaza prison on 18 May. Two others belong to the Islamic Jihad organization. Two Kalashnikov assault rifles, two M-16's, revolvers, a grenade, magazines, and sabotage equipment were found in the terrorists' possession. Once again, in the incident a Shin Bet man, Victor Rajwan of Beersheva, was killed, and his funeral will leave today at 1330 from his parents' home for the Beersheva cemetery.

Plans To Launch 3 Satellites by 1992 Revealed

TA071014 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
7 Oct 87 p A 12

[Report by Avraham Peleg]

[Text] Israel is planning to launch three satellites into space: two for scientific purposes and the other for communications. The satellites will be built by Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI], which has already set up a science technology directorate. The missiles will be launched by either a U.S., European, or Israeli-made rocket.

Prof Dror Sade of the Israel Space Agency has reported that, at NASA's invitation, Israel will participate in the celebrations marking the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America, scheduled for 1992. Congress has proclaimed 1992 as space year. According to the invitation, Israel will launch into space a science satellite, which will be outfitted with an infrared telescope to help monitor underwater sea migration.

A smaller test satellite will be launched in 1990. Professor Sade reported that NASA has entrusted the building of the satellites to the IAI, which established the science technology directorate for that purpose.

The second generation satellite, which will be a science satellite and much more sophisticated, will be launched between 400 and 500 km into space and will orbit the earth every 90 minutes. The cost of building it will reach between 10 million and 15 million. Part of the funds for that project will probably come from NASA, while Israel will provide the rest of the resources.

Three options for the launching of the satellite are being considered: either from a U.S. rocket, or from the European Ariane, or from an Israeli-made rocket.

King Husayn Leaves Amman for Talks in Baghdad
JN061115 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1100 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] King Husayn of Jordan left Amman today for Baghdad on a visit that is part of the Jordanian monarch's consultations to prepare for the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November.

Returns From Baghdad
JN061734 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman this evening after a short working visit to fraternal Iraq. During the visit, he met with His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to review the latest developments in the Arab arena. The two leaders made a comprehensive assessment of the latest developments in the Iraq-Iran war. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn reassured His Majesty King Husayn of the soundness of the Iraqi military situation and the Iraqi Army's capability to confront any attempt by the Iranian enemy to harm Iraq's capability and steadfastness.

The two leaders also exchanged views on the Arab summit conference scheduled for Amman on 8 November and discussed ways to make the summit a success.

His Majesty King Husayn was received at Amman Airport by Crown Prince Hasan, Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, and senior officials. Returning with his majesty the king were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Baghdad this afternoon. His Excellency President Saddam Husayn was at the head of those who received his majesty. Participating in the reception ceremony were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the RCC members; the head of the Presidential Office; the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

Ziaul Haq Meets With Newsmen in Amman 6 Oct
JN061801 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Amman—Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has lauded His Majesty King Husayn's wise leadership and his courageous stands in support of world justice and peace.

While meeting with Jordanian news media representatives at Basman Palace today, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said that when he visits Jordan he feels he is visiting his homeland and that he harbors feelings of love and friendship for Jordan.

He pointed out he discussed with His Majesty King Husayn a number of Islamic issues, including the Iraq-Iran war, the Palestine question, bilateral relations, and issues of common interest. President Ziaul Haq added that Pakistan has always supported Arab issues. He added that Pakistan has worked unstintingly to reach a lasting, just, and comprehensive solution to the Palestine question to ensure recovery of holy places, the occupied Arab territories, and the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights. He asserted his country's support for His Majesty King Husyn's efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference to be attended by all the parties concerned to implement UN Security Council resolutions on the Palestine question.

He reiterated Pakistan's call for an end to the Iraq-Iran war and referred to the Pakistani Government's numerous attempts and efforts in this regard. He said: I was the first head of state to visit Iraq and Iran 5 days after the eruption of war between them. Pakistan was also chosen as a member of the 7-member Good Offices Committee which stemmed from the ICO and which was entrusted with ending the war.

His excellency said: Pakistan succeeded in maintaining relations with Iraq and Iran and in adopting a neutral position on their dispute. He denied reports that his country is biased toward either side. He expressed hope that the UN secretary general will succeed in his current efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war and solve the problems between the two countries peacefully.

The Pakistani president stressed his country's support for any regional, Islamic, or international effort to end the war. He noted Pakistan's support for international unanimity and for the UN Security Council resolutions in this regard, including imposition of an arms embargo on Iran.

He said: Owing to its location, Pakistan enjoys good relations with its neighbors like India, the PRC, Iran, Afghanistan, and the USSR. He said Pakistan and the PRC have a special relationship.

Answering a question about Pakistan's production of the nuclear bomb, he said: We possess nuclear technology, but we use it for peaceful purposes. He stressed that his country will not allow inspection of nuclear installations unless all are treated equally.

On Pakistani-Indian relations, his excellency said: We currently have good relations with India. We have continuous contacts. We proposed signing a non-aggression pact between the two countries.

He indicated that Indian-Pakistani relations are not affected by what takes place between the various religious sects in India. His excellency the Pakistani president pointed out that there are several forces which act against Islam, exploiting the Islamic world's problems and internal differences.

On the emigration of Iranian Jews to Israel via Austria, he said: I know that at the outset of the revolution, some Iranian Jews left in different ways and through some international committees. He noted that there are currently non-Jewish groups trying to emigrate from Iran as a result of persecution.

Departs After Official Visit

JN061224 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Amman—His Excellency Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and his wife left Amman this afternoon after a 3-day official visit to Jordan at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur. During the visit the Pakistani president held talks on current Arab and Islamic issues and developments in the Middle East and the Arab Gulf, as well bilateral relations and ways to promote them.

King Husayn and Queen Nur led those who bade farewell to Jordan's guests. His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent; Her Highness Princess Tharwat; Zayd al-Rifa'i, prime minister; Ahmad al-Lawzi, president of the Senate; 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of Representatives; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, court minister; Staff Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; the ministers; and a number of ranking military and civilian officials, also bade farewell to the president. [Passage omitted on the president's visit to the Pakistani Embassy in Amman].

Husayn Congratulates Mubarak on Reelection

JN062008 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn telephoned Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this evening. His majesty the king congratulated the Egyptian president on the fraternal Egyptian people's confidence in him and on his reelection to a second presidential term.

His majesty expressed his overwhelming happiness over this great victory, which proves the Egyptian people's confidence in their president. His majesty stressed that these remarkable results will please every Arab in the Arab homeland. He also wished President Mubarak every success in leading his people toward progress and prosperity.

His Excellency President Mubarak expressed his gratitude and appreciation for His Majesty King Husayn's genuine fraternal emotions and stressed his pride in the confidence of his people and nation.

Army Chief Receives Soviet Military Official

JN051628 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Staff Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, received in his office this morning Lieutenant General (Filsov), head of the Soviet military delegation currently visiting Jordan. The commander in chief met with the guest for a period of time. The meeting was attended by Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, chief of staff; his planning and organization assistant; and the Soviet ambassador to Jordan.

Al-Shawwa Urges Arabs To Give To W. Bank Plan

JN061048 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Oct 87 p 3

[By Fathi al-'Arqan]

[Excerpts] Amman—Rashad al-Shawwa, former Gaza mayor who was deposed by the occupation authorities, has called on Arab kings, presidents, and amirs to acheive the nation's hopes and aspirations by taking unified positions and stands toward the Arabs' various fateful issues. [Passage omitted on appeal to Arab heads of state to close ranks so they can help those in the occupied Arab territories]

Regarding the Jordanian development plan for the occupied Arab territories, Rashad al-Shawwa said: I came to Amman on a working visit to obtain aid for the Gaza Strip from Jordan. He added: The Jordanian development plan was so well received and welcomed in the Gaza Strip that applications to benefit from it greatly exceed the modest available means.

Al-Shawwa went on to say: The number of applications submitted by Gazan establishments, groups, and individuals to benefit from the projects included in the plan has reached 5,000, at a time when the available means are modest.

He said: The Jordanian development plan for the occupied Arab territories was initiated to provide great services to the kinfolk in the occupied territories to improve their living conditions and, consequently, to entrench their presence in their homeland and to bolster their steadfastness there.

Al-Shawwa added: The plan envisaged that Arab and friendly states as well as those displaying an interest in providing aid would contribute to the plan. However, he added, few countries have so far contributed to the plan and with limited amounts that do not equal what Jordan has contributed from its budget, despite its economic hardships and its scarcity of resources.

He continued: We would like to see the Arab nation allocate sufficient funds to the development plan for the occupied Arab territories to help this plan succeed.

Regarding the Al-Najah University students' differences which were used by the occupation authorities to close the university, Al-Shawwa said: Differences and wrong tendencies which take place outside the occupied territories reflect negatively on the situation in the occupied territories.

On the *Al-Huda* newspaper for which he obtained a license to issue in the Gaza Strip, Al-Shawwa said: The license that we secured restricted the distribution of the newspaper to the Gaza Strip and, of course, it is impossible to issue a newspaper with such a restriction. We have asked that our newspaper be distributed in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and also among Israeli Arabs and we are still awaiting the approval of our request.

Rashad al-Shawwa arrived in Amman on the evening of 4 October on a working visit lasting several days and related to the Jordanian development plan for the Gaza Strip. Al-Shawwa is expected to meet a number of officials to acquaint them with the situation in the Gaza Strip and to discuss ways of bolstering the people's steadfastness there.

Protest Made to UN Over Israeli Annexation

NC061934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Lebanon has lodged a complaint with the UN Security Council over the slicing off of Lebanese territories by Israel, mentioning that it may later call on the UN Security Council to meet and discuss the issue in an open session.

Al-Huss Criticizes Action

NC070915 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Beirut, Oct 7 (AFP)—Lebanon lodged a complaint with the UN Security Council against "rampant annexation" by Israel of teritory in southern Lebanon, according to interim Prime Minister Salim al-Huss.

Mr. Huss told *Agence France-Presse* that he had instructed Lebanon's delegation to the United Nations on Tuesday to make the complaint.

"If Israel does not reverse its actions, we will request a meeting of the Security Council," he added.

Mr. Al-Huss said that Israel, Lebanon's southern neighbor, has "annexed an undetermined amount of Lebanese territory by building roads, installing barbed wire and banning inhabitants from entering the occupied lands."

When the Israeli Armed Forces pulled out of Lebanon in 1985, they maintained control over a strip of territory 10 to 20 kilometers (6 to 12 miles) wide along the Israeli border in southern Lebanon. This "security zone" is patroled by Israeli troops and their auxilliary militia, the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

On Monday, an officer with the U.N. body appointed to supervise the truce in Palestine (UNTSO) said that Israel began five years ago to appropriate territory south of the Christian border village of 'Alma al-Sha'b, 110 kilometer (66 miles) south of Beirut.

Israel was also taking over land between the villages of Yarun and Rumaysh, close to the border further east, the U.N. obsever said.

Al-Jumayyil Makes 'Secret Visit' to Cairo

NC070752 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 28 Sep 87 p 7

[Text] President of the Republic Amin al-Jumayyil paid a secret visit to Cairo while on his way to New York. While there, he met with President Husni Mubarak and senior Egyptian officials. During the meetings, the president reviewed with them the situation in Lebanon. Al-Jumayyil asked them to support the stands and steps he is on the verge of taking, foremost of which is the formation of a new government or the "fait accompli" government.

Paqraduni 'Secret Visit'

NC070803 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 28 Sep 87 p 7

[Text] A well-informed source in West Beirut has revealed that Lebanese Forces Deputy Commander Karim Paqraduni paid a secret visit to Egypt before traveling to France. While in France, Paqraduni held talks with French officials on the situation in Lebanon and the region in general, and the forthcoming presidential elections in Lebanon in particular. The same source did not reveal the nature of the meetings nor of the talks that Paqraduni held in Egypt.

U.S. State Department Official Newton Arrives

NC070943 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] David Newton, head of the Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan desk at the U.S. State Department, arrived in Lebanon today. He will hold discussions with officials on local developments.

Delay in Release of FRG Hostage Explained

NC071055 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 5 Oct 87 p 7

[Text] The release of Rudolf Cordes, the second German hostage, has been delayed because of the French Government's annoyance with the way West Germany dealt with the kidnappers and obtained the release of Alfred Schmidt, one of the hostages. The steps to release Cordes thus slowed down, because Germany hesitated to respond to some conditions, following France's annoyance.

Iran's Rafiqdust Forms Armed Group in Beirut

NC070810 Beirut AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic 28 Sep-4 Oct 87 p 4

[Text] Mohsen Rafiqdust, Iranian minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, has established an armed organization in Beirut and other Lebanese areas which is independent from Hizballah and other Islamic groups. Syrian intelligence is investigating the activities of this organization in an attempt to find out its political and security dimensions.

According to available information, Rafiqdust has made arrangements to provide huge financial and "technical" resources for the organization.

The members of the "Dust Organization" refuse to form any relationship with "Hizballah" and Islamic groups at the moment. They get their instructions from an Iranian man of religion and a senior employee in the Iranian Embassy.

The Iranians already have several armed organizations in Lebanon, including "Hizballah", the "Islamic Group", the Islamic Unification Movement in Tripoli, and the "Dust Organization" and "Islamic Amal" in Ba'labakk.

Hizballah Reportedly Supports Amal Suburb Plan

NC061630 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Excerpt] 'Aql Hamiyah, the Amal Movement's Military Department chief, said that Hizballah sent a message to the Amal Movement this morning expressing its complete approval of the security plan for the southern suburb. Hamiyah said that the date for implementing the plan will be announced following a meeting of Amal's security officials in Beirut next week. [Passage omitted]

Amal on Palestinian Obstacles to Camps Solution

NC061343 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] The Palestinians are continuing to prevent the implementation of Minister Nabih Birri's initiative to end the camps war and to bring about their withdrawal from the area east of Sidon. In an interview with the NNA, Haytham Jum'ah, member of the Amal Movement's Political Bureau, has explained that the obstacle which stands in the way of a withdrawal from east of Sidon is the Palestinians' intransigent position.

The withdrawal of the Palestinians was scheduled to take place on 5 October, he said. However, a change was noticed in their position before the deadline. They resorted to some maneuvers, such as insisting upon a message they sent to the Liberation and Unification Front in which they demanded that the reconstruction of the camps should begin 13 September. This is contrary to the provisions of the Amal Movement leader's initiative, which stipulated that reconstruction will take place after the withdrawal from the area east of Sidon.

Jum'ah added that the Palestinians have placed a new obstacle, namely, the question of Palestinian fighters who had been transferred to the camps from abroad. Jum'ah emphasized that the Amal Movement initiative has nothing to do with these fighters, pointing out that the Movement was not consulted when they arrived. He asked: What have the nationalist Palestinians, who were so happy about an impending solution, done to be confronted with such positions?

Jum'ah concluded by saying that the Amal Movement insists on the implementation of the agreement in the same positive spirit of Nabih Birri's initiative which was outlined in a joint statement issued 11 September 1987.

'Violent' Clashes

NC071130 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 7 Oct 8

[Text] Violent clashes have been raging between Palestinians and Amal members along the combat lines of Maghdushah, Jinsnaya, and Baysur southeast of Sidon since 1300. Machineguns and rockets are being used in the fighting.

Birri on Unification Front, Ties With Libya

NC071119 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 5 Oct 87 pp 12-16

[Interview with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri by *Al-Shira'* correspondent Zayn Hammud in Beirut—date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Hammud] How do you evaluate your relations with Iran in the wake of the Tyre rally?

[Birri] There has been no radical change in this relationship. Regrettably, a delegation from the Iranian Embassy that was attending the rally walked out. After the rally I had the impression, and still do, that the brother members of the delegation might have walked out of the rally because their Arabic was not good and they did not understand what I was really trying to say.

My words were in fact meant to promote the aspirations of Imam Khomeyni and the Islamic revolution as far as I personally understand them. However, some people wanted to interpret my words as being directed against the Islamic revolution. I believe that their Islam may be good but their Arabic is not.

[Hammud] Observers have noted that certain partisan forces in West Beirut have sent fighters to Chad while at the same time declining to send any to the South to fight Israel. You are allied with these forces. Will your alliance continue after the dispatch of fighters to Chad?

[Birri] Who is allied with them?

[Hammud] The Amal Movement.

[Birri] Not at all.

[Hammud] Why not? What about the Unification and Liberation Front?

[Birri] This question is very important. First of all Lebanon never sent any troops to Chad.

[Hammud] My question is not about Lebanon.

[Birri] Lebanon as a state did not send troops to Chad. This subject has never been discussed at the governmental level—even though at present we do not have a government in the true sense of the word—nor on the individual level; for example, between [Acting] Prime Minister al-Huss, or any other minister, and myself. This subject has never been raised at all, and therefore Lebanon is not to blame in this respect.

As for the partisan level, we are still working to reach an alliance in the form of the Unification and Liberation Front. It is no secret that the front has no role to play at the moment. Some of its members have relations with Libya, but this is nothing new. It is true that in the past

they used to bring some [Libyans] to Lebanon, but it seems that the opposite is the case at present and they are sending people there now. There have been press reports about deals involving $500, $1,000, and $100,000.

The economic situation in Lebanon is bad and some people have just packed up and gone to Libya. However, this decision was not made by the front. It was not even raised for discussion. On the contrary, the Amal Movement is opposed to this move and this is a declared position. The second thing is that 'Asim Qansuh, the secretary general of the front, has pointed out that the Ba'th Party Organization had taken no part in this process. He issued a statement declaring that the front has had nothing to do with this issue.

[Hammud] Who sent fighters then? Are any of the major parties in the front involved in this issue?

[Birri] Some parties within the front are involved, but other parties have sent fighters on an individual basis. The Amal Movement should not be held accountable for this. We have very important ties with Africa and we stand by the downtrodden people. In my speech at Ba'labakk, which preceded all this, I made it clear that we stand beside the African peoples and do not accept any act of aggression against the Libyan people. But the Libyan people must get rid of their leaders.

Let me ask one question that has not been raised before: Why does the Libyan regime want to take Lebanese people from here and get Lebanon involved in their battle? We have enough battles of our own. This is taking place at a time when the Libyan regime has dozens of officers and agents in Lebanon.

We know this for sure and we have the names of agents, officers, and soldiers of the Libyan Army. What are they doing here? You may remember that when Maghdushah was attacked by the pro-'Arafat group the Libyans declared that they had sent troops to take part in the fighting. They arrived in Maghdushah and made statements there. Why should Lebanon get involved?

This issue falls within the context of the relationship between some [Lebanese] parties and the Libyan regime, but it is not a general position adopted by the front. At any rate, the Amal Movement made it clear before and after the dispatch of the fighters that it was opposed to this move and still is, and that it does not support the regime of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

[Hammud] Do you not think this issue will deal a blow to the Unification and Liberation Front and might lead to its fragmentation before it is born, since two major parties in the front have sent fighters to Chad?

[Birri] Who are they?

[Hammud] The PSP and the Communist Party.

[Birri] As you know, the fighting in West Beirut between us and the two parties you mentioned has only recently ended. Now there is a process of reconciliation among us, as Lebanese, and a state of frankness among us, as nationalist forces. It is our right. When you make a deal with a specific front or you want to form a certain front this does not mean that you are responsible for the other party's actions. For instance, are the PSP and the Communist Party responsible for what happens to the Amal Movement? If so, why did they not adopt a position during the fighting between Amal and the Palestinians, which was imposed on us?

[Hammud] They did.

[Birri] Yes, they did, but they did not take Amal's side. The same is true now. We are trying to form a front while maintaining our opposition to this issue about Chad.

[Hammud] It has been noticed that the front's meetings are seasonal. It has also been noticed that any meeting of the front must be preceded by a reconciliation between you and Minister Junblatt in Damascus.

[Birri] No, on the contrary. After the reconciliation session I held with Minister Junblatt in Damascus, we have no problems any more. The point is that there are some structural procedures that are being studied in connection with the front. A meeting takes place almost every 3 days. Haytham Jum'ah is our representative and the PSP has its own representative as well. Secretaries meet only when they receive an invitation from the front's secretary general, something he will attend to when he has dealt with the organizational issues. [Passage omitted]

PSP Statement on Unification Front, Libya

NC061557 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Excerpts] The PSP Political Bureau met today under the chairmanship of PSP leader Walid Junblatt at the People's Palace in Bayt al-Din. The bureau discussed various local, regional, and international developments and issued a statement.

The statement notes that the PSP Political Bureau has reviewed developments in the general political situation in the country and maintains the view that Amin al-Jumayyil's tour of the United States and Europe falls within the activity of the tools of reactionaryism, coinciding with the new U.S. onslaught on the Arab region represented by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' planned visit. This visit aims to promote the U.S.-Israeli conditions for settling the Arab-Israeli conflict and to tame opposition to the U.S. hegemonist plan to control the Middle East and the Arab Maghreb, from the Gulf to Libya.

The PSP Political Bureau states that events in Lebanon cannot be separated from the current climate of Arab retreats and lack of even a minimum Arab nationalist policy vis-a-vis the challenges confronting the region on all sides. [Passage omitted]

The PSP Political Bureau has also considered the campaign of statements issued by foremost nationalist leaders belonging of the Unification and Liberation Front aimed at casting aspersions on the PSP's nationalist and pan-Arab stands. It is noteworthy that such statements were made as part of a campaign to raise doubts about the unity of the Unification and Liberation front and its role.

The PSP Political Bureau had earlier avoided using media exchanges among allies, because such exchanges detract from the Front's program of action and its reputation. The PSP maintained this stand to preserve the Front as a necessary formula for nationalist action. It believes certain positions adopted by Amal leaders indicate a tendency to abrogate the Front's charter and its basic political line. Consequently, the PSP wonders if it is possible for the Front to continue to exist amid such contradictions among its members. [Passage omitted]

The statement adds: The Unification and Liberation Front has failed so far to undertake any of the tasks to which it had committed itself, particularly with regard to the current requirement of firmly confronting the Phalangist scheme and its tools. We fear that some allies have retreated from the Front's charter in exchange for a new gamble on the Phalangist rule and the Army institution and in favor of a sectarian settlement which Al-Jumayyil is offering and the United States is supporting, despite the dangers such a settlement poses to the national cause and the demands for comprehensive political and social reforms for which we are struggling in Lebanon.

It is very regrettable that the principled pan-Arab stand adopted by the PSP in showing solidarity with the Libyan Arab people, who are in a war with Chad, are being subjected to a flagrant colonialist U.S.-French onslaught, should be made an issue and an opportunity for serving the narrow financial interests of a small group of Lebanese expatriates.

In contrast, the PSP is proud of its principled pan-Arab stand in participating in nationalist Libya's battle against imperialism and the same forces which invaded Lebanon in 1982 under the guise of the multinational forces, who were subsequently expelled from Lebanon by our people's strugglers as they had been driven earlier from the Arab east and the Arab Maghreb.

The PSP Political Bureau wonders whether a nationalist front can assume its nationalist role in Lebanon without paying due attention to such basic pan-Arab principles and asks whether it is true that the aim is to stem this Front's role, especially as it has stopped confronting the country's basic political and social issues. [Passage omitted]

Fadlallah Interviewed on Hostages, Bribe Claims

NC070958 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 5-11 Oct 87 p 15-17

[Interview with Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, Hizballah spiritual leader, by Nadim Abu Ghannam; place and date not given]

[Text] [Abu Ghannam] How do you evaluate the speech of President al-Jumayyil at the UN General Assembly? What is your viewpoint on his future plan and what impact will it have on the Lebanese scene?

[Fadlallah] In my opinion, the speech discussed the outcome of the Lebanese problem, but did not discuss its roots. We know that the roots of the Lebanese crisis, on the local scene, are the lack of balance in real power-sharing. The absence of justice in Lebanon's government has created a sense of persecution with one Lebanese group facing another group. I do not mean the Moslems alone, because some non-Maronite Christians feel this persecution on the political level.

I would imagine that the president and his entourage are responsible for the continuation of this grave issue, its spreading and its bypassing of all prerogatives. This issue is one of the factors that waged more than a war in Lebanon and opened gaps for those willing to penetrate into the Lebanese scene. Solving the Lebanese crisis, through issuing appeals for the withdrawal of foreign armies and sides which are effective on the Lebanese scene, the Palestinians and Iranians, indicated that the president the Lebanese issue in a preaching and oratorical manner. [Sentence as published]

Such issues are linked to the general political atmosphere on the regional level which is currently dominated by two complexed issues: the Gulf war and the Palestinian problem. I believe that facing the world with the Lebanese cause requires a position that confirms to the depth of the issue and not on topics of consumption. We should not discuss the Lebanese issue in this manner, because it will be transformed into complaints, instead of being presented as a discussion of a problem through its real regional factors. As for what may happen, or what are the aspirations that may be achieved, I believe that the issue is turning in a vicious circle.

We know that the Arab situation, and most of its symbols, cannot present anything to this issue, nor to its roots which are deeply embedded in the present situation or in the Palestinian cause. How can this person achieve anything through the Arabs, or through those benefiting from the Lebanese scene, by activating their political plans?

How can all contacts achieve great results in this respect? I believe that some of the regional and international political positions will render some services on the level of the present crisis especially that there is still a long time before a solution is achieved.

[Abu Ghannam] How do you expect the Gulf war to proceed? Will it maintain its present status or will there be bloody clashes?

[Fadlallah] I believe that wide-scale bloody clashes are ruled out, in view of the political factors imposed during this stage at least. I think the American presence in the Gulf, in such a great parade, and which has also involved some of the European countries, is now facing a critical situation because it was not able to achieve anything on the Gulf war level, moreover it failed to resolve the problem of free navigation.

What was taking place was a sort of limited operation within the framework of Iraqi raids on Iranian tankers. We know that the U.S. entered the Gulf under the motto of protecting the Kuwaiti tankers, but later it was cornered by mounting political pressures at home and in the world. This role of protecting the Kuwaiti tankers fell short of this great military parade.

I explain the attack against the Iranian tanker by the American helicopters as an attempt to "show the American flag" in the Gulf. You must recall that the U.S. did not, at the time of the attack, provide photographic proof. This would seem to indicate that the U.S. is looking for any pretext or incident which can be shown in the "information level", or to indicate that its presence in the Gulf is beneficial and effective. I think that partial incidents in certain battle-fields will take place but will not lead to a great war, because there are international red lines, and each international group will stay within prescribed borders.

[Abu Ghannam] How would the escalation of the Gulf war affect the hostage issue, do you think?

[Fadlallah] I don't think there is direct influence on this issue, because as we all know it has reached a certain stage whereby things have started moving within bilateral relations, instead of moving within general political lines.

[Abu Ghannam] What is your viewpoint regarding the Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman next November?

[Fadlallah] I don't think this summit will have a great chance of success if it is held in the absence of an international stand that takes into consideration the international balance in relations between East and West.

We know that the Arab summits are not held as a result of an independent Arab resolution, but as a result of international interests, which may or may not be harmonious with the Arab interests. Thus, the difference between positions in East and West, with respect to the strategic interests of the political lines, may prevent the convening of a summit, and may obstruct the success of this summit.

A best proof would be that of the Arab foreign ministers' meeting on September 20, which was supposed to issue a decisive resolution concerning future Iranian-Arab relations if a ceasefire is not reached. But this meeting ended with no results and the conferees instead of reaching such a resolution decided to hold a summit meeting whose chances of success may not be better than those of any resolution to sever relations with Iran.

We do not explain this in terms of inter-Arab relations, but through the green, red or yellow lights which are moving on the international scene, and in the light that the Arab scene is always trying to be complementary with the international one. I rule out the convening of a summit of all the Arab states, and I rule out its success on the basis of what was mentioned before and on the basis of past experiences.

[Abu Ghannam] What is your comment on what was published in the press last week about the 1985 explosion at B'ir al-'Abd and which was basically aimed against your life?

[Fadlallah] 1) The first point is that from the very beginning I felt that the issue was American and I knew that it was a response to the explosion of the Marines, while the American intelligence was accusing me of being behind all this. This is why I declared the U.S. responsibility from the beginning. The poster in front of the burnt houses entitled: "Made in the United States" was the proof.

We know that when the U.S. moves, it does not have details on this matter, although we were able to lay our hands on certain guidelines concerning Lebanese, American and Israeli involvement through those who implemented this operation. We were not astonished with the involvement of American intelligence on this issue, and our intuition in the past and at present are correct.

2) The second point is that talk of the relation of a cetain Arab state in this issue is not astonishing, because we know the firm relation between cetain Arab states and the U.S. Such a relation prompts them to finance any American operation in this direction if the U.S. official could not obtain the approval of the House and Senate.

3) The third point is that the accusation made that a certain Arab official during his discussion with Mr. Casey the former contacted me to accept a 2-million

dollar aid for my supporters (followers) on condition that they not attack the European and international interests is really ridiculous and groundless. [Sentence as published]

(1) The message mentioned a 2-million dollar worth of foodstuffs and medicines. I challenge anyone or any side who can prove that such aid was provided to us. And I declare that we even objected to the distribution of foodstuffs that were offered to the Lebanese in general, and even those given to the poor Moslems. This issue is ridiculous, because it contradicts the real facts on the private or public levels.

(2) If I were responsible for the suicidal operations, and the funds were paid to make me commit myself not to undergo such operations, how do you explain what happened if there was a commitment, is there a violation of the commitment? If it was true that a Gulf prince discussed with Mr. Casey this topic, he would be trying to show himself as capable of protecting American interests through Arab funds.

I challenge, through your magazine, all world intelligence to prove that I have any financial relation with any state or with any political side in the world, even Iran. I strongly challenge anyone to prove such a contention, and I am ready to confront anyone who takes up my challenge.

[Abu Ghannam] On the local level do you think the political stagnation that Lebanon is facing will be activated by military outbreaks?

[Fadlallah] I rule out a military outbreak, because it has no popular basis in any position. However, we cannot consider this probability utterly impossible, because under the effect of surprises, it is possible that official military organs will be used one way or the other for this end if the popular military organs or militias fail to do so.

The question is whether the "dish" being prepared on the local scene needs a high flame or a low one. The course of developments in the Gulf war and in the Palestinian issue will determine how things work out in Lebanon in the near future.

[Abu Ghannam] Do you consider the economic recession and the difficult living conditions another "war" to impose solutions on the citizens in order to solve the Lebanese crisis?

[Fadlallah] I imagine that it is part of the great war to "tame" the citizen who raises slogans of change on one side and to neutralize the silent majority that may face issues negatively. This neutralization will facilitate the implementation of solutions, whether they are internally or externally reached, without facing any opposition. By that time the people would be completely exhausted to an extent that they would raise the following slogan: "We want neutrality regardless of its quality and far from the system that is moving within this neutrality". To put an end to the Lebanese civil strife, the whole people should stand firm and shout aloud "Save us from starvation, and do whatever you like to do."

Shi'ite Leader Interviewed on Hostages, Syria

PM061356 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 1 Oct 87 p 16

[Interview with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Lebanese Shi'ite Higher Islamic Council, by Dominique Lagarde in Paris—date not given]

[Text] *Le Quotidien:* What can you tell us about the position of the French hostages in Lebanon? Are you optimistic about the possibility of them being released?

Shams al-Din: From the start we have condemned the seizure of hostages and we have always done our best to save hostages' lives. We greatly regret that foreign intelligence services have interfered in this affair. It has made it very delicate and very difficult. We are continuing our efforts but I do not expect a rapid solution.

Le Quotidien: Did you raise the hostage question during the talks which you had with Algerian officials?

Shams al-Din: Not as a separate issue. But we raised it during the general discussion on the Lebanese question.

Le Quotidien: Are you worried about the divisions within the Lebanese Shi'ite community?

Shams al-Din: Disagreements are always worrying. But the Shi'ite community is not the only community in Lebanon that is divided. We must work to achieve unity among all Lebanese.

Le Quotidien: A section of the Lebanese Shi'ite community is in favor of establishing an Islamic republic in Lebanon. Do you share that view?

Shams al-Din: The supporters of an Islamic republic in Lebanon are not limited to one section of the Shi'ite community. There are also some Sunni Muslims who are in favor of it. I am opposed to an Islamic republic in Lebanon.

An Islamic republic is only conceivable in an exclusively Islamic society, and this is not the case in Lebanon. In addition to the advocates of an Islamic republic, views on Lebanon's constitutional future at present divide into three main factions. One, a conservative faction, wants to maintain the existing system with some alterations. The other wants far-reaching reforms, while maintaining the principle of confessionalism. Finally, the third favors

a radical change, which would mean abandoning confessionalism and establishing a numerical democracy (Footnote :in Lebanon the Shi'ites form the largest community) based on universal suffrage. I belong to this third faction.

Le Quotidien: Do you think that Iran and Syria are working in parallel in Lebanon, or are these two countries in opposition?

Shams al-Din: I think that their spheres of interest are different. However, Syria's geographical position and population give it a special role in Lebanon.

Le Quotidien: You played an important role in the negotiations which led to a truce between the Palestinian and Shi'ite fighters. Do you think that this truce will last?

Shams al-Din: I am satisfied and proud of the role which I played. I hope that it will not simply be a truce, but a lasting solution.

Le Quotidien: Do you think that Syria shares your view?

Shams al-Din: Syria has also taken action in this direction.

Le Quotidien: I would like to move on to an entirely different subject and ask you about your feelings on the recent trial of several dozen Islamic fundamentalists in Tunis.

Shams al-Din: We were very worried about this. Moreover, it was one of the subjects which we discussed with the Algerians, who informed us that they had approached the Tunisian authorities. Despite that, the verdict shocked us, and we advise the Tunisian authorities not to carry out any of the death sentences.

Le Quotidien: Do you think that the threats which Islamic Jihad has made against Tunis in Beirut ought to be taken seriously?

Shams al-Din: I am not in a position to assess the seriousness of these threats, because I have no links with those people. However, no reaction ought to be underestimated.

Foreign Minister Returns Home From New York

JN062006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this evening after leading the Syrian delegation to the 42d UN General Assembly session in New York.

Damascus Rally Marks October War Anniversary

JN061852

[Editorial report] Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic, broadcasting in parallel with Damascus Television Service in Arabic, at 1400 GMT on 6 October begins a live broadcast of the rally at Damascus University auditorium on the 14th anniversary of the 1973 October war.

According to the announcer, the speech rally is attended by Zuhayr Mashariqah, vice president; 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general; Mahmud al-Zu'bi, speaker of the People's Assembly; Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister; the ministers; and members of the Central Command of the Progressive National Front, which embraces all political parties in Syria, including the Ba'th Party.

The rally begins with the Syrian national anthem and at 1406 GMT Michel Rishah, vice president of the Syrian General Federation of Trade Unions, delivers the first speech, which he devotes to the lessons of the October war. He says Syria, under Al-Asad, has succeeded in overcoming all obstacles and defeating all enemy conspiracies to subdue it and make it turn from its pan-Arab policy. He promises Al-Asad that Syrian workers will exert further efforts to increase production and achieve self-sufficiency.

At 1422 GMT Daniel Ni'mah, Progressive National Front Central Command member, delivers the next speech, which he also devotes to praising the October war, the spirit it brought about among the Arabs, and the martyrs who fell in defense of the Arab nation and its values.

Ni'mah then says that in line with Al-Asad's policy, Syria will continue to support the Lebanese and Palestinians in their struggle for freedom, sovereignty, and their rights.

He reaffirms that Syria will not give in to enemy pressures or threats and will continue to confront conspiracies against Arabs. He highlights Syria's prominent role in regional and international organizations and stresses that Syria will do its best to enhance its military capabilities, restore Arab solidarity, and entrench relations of friendship with other countries, particularly the USSR.

Ni'mah denounces the continued U.S. support for Israel, saying that the United States is now deploying its forces in Gulf waters. Ni'mah says: "With its actions in the Gulf, the U.S. Administration is intentionally obstructing the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution on ending the Iraq-Iran war. It is also complicating the state of affairs there and not resolving it."

He adds: "What is worse than all this is that U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger has gone thousands of miles from the shores of his country to visit the U.S. warships and to order his fleet to sink an Iranian vessel. He also threatens Iran, publicly and impudently asking it to change its political leadership. Why? Because it does not please him. It seems that this minister wants, through these Hitlerite statements, to address implicit threats to any developing country that remains committed to its national independence and its right to choose the course of its development as it sees fit and not as he desires."

Ni'mah then wonders how Weinberg fails to learn from experience and to realize that history cannot go backwards. Ni'mah asks: "Does Weinberger believe that Iran will remain alone if the United States attacks it?" He stresses that Syria will continue its policy of attaining strategic parity with Israel to enable the Arabs to regain their rights.

At 1450 GMT Dr Sulayman Qaddah, assistant secretary of the Ba'th Party Regional Command, delivers the final speech on behalf of the Ba'th Party. He begins by reviewing the lessons of the October war, how it shattered the myth of the invincibility of the Israeli solder and how this war restored Arab confidence.

Qaddah then says to avenge their defeat in the October war the enemies worked to remove Egypt from the Arab arena, making it sign the Camp David accords. He adds that they make Iraq wage war against Iran to divert the two Muslim countries' attention from the main battle against Israel.

On the presence of U.S. naval units in Gulf waters, Qaddah says: "We cannot accept the idea of seeking the assistance of foreign fleets, particularly since the U.S. fleet is the strategic ally of the Israeli enemy."

Qaddah stresses that Syria is working for a unified Arab stand that will enable Arabs to confront their enemies. He says: "Under the leadership of Hafiz al-Asad, Syria was able to help in preventing the spread of the Iraqi-Iranian war. Arab Syria affirmed to its Arab brothers in the Gulf its pan-Arab responsibilities and commitments toward any danger threatening them."

Syria, he adds, works for Arab solidarity as it believes in Arab unity. He then reviews Syria's efforts in this respect and Syria's support for the Lebanese and Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights and independence.

He adds: "We call on the Lebanese brothers who have faith in Lebanon's unity and Arab affilaition to unite their efforts and overcome everything obstructing the march of unity and liberation."

Qaddah affirms that Syria will continue to shoulder its pan-Arab responsibilities to liiberate Palestine as well as its efforts to achieve strategic parity with Israel in cooperation with the friendly Soviet Union.

Concluding, Qaddah says that Syria must enhance cooperation and friendship with socialist countries and carry out development programs so it can shoulder its responsibilities on domestic, Arab, and international levels.

At 1514 GMT the rally concludes with the national anthem. The live broadcast ends at 1520 GMT.

Afghanistan

BAKHTAR Carries Najib Interview With TASS

LD070831 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0426 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 7, *Bakhtar*—The interview of general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA given to the TASS correspondent in the DRA was published here today.

The main task which is facing currently the Afghan people is to end the fratricidal war and to establish a lasting peace in the country, said Dr. Najibullah in the interview. Nine months ago the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Afghan Government proclaimed the policy of national reconciliation and found a political way of solving the problem. The efficacy of this policy already made itself felt.

Its main achievement lies in the fact that it did not leave a single Afghan indifferent, because having opted for the peace policy, the people's power appealed to the heart of every patriot. People understood who was their friend and who [their] enemy.

Some 2,000 villages went over to the side of the government, 83,000 refugees returned to the country and over 6,000 representatives of once oppositional armed groups are taking an active part in the work of village, subdistrict, district and provincial jirgahs and national reconciliation commissions. In this way, one of the main principles of national reconciliation, the principle of coalition which is born from the bottom, is vindicated in practice.

The discussion of the draft constitution is currently continuing throughout the country, Dr. Najibullah said. Some 15,000 constructive concrete proposals and additions have been made. The adoption of the main law will become an important factor in normalising the situation in the country and lay down legal foundations for the policy of reconciliation, which has notably enhanced the authority of Afghanistan in the international scene.

The acceleration of the reconciliation process, the involvement of all mass organisations and patriotic forces of the country in it and the earliest establishment of peace and tranquility on Afghan soil—in this I see my main task as president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Dr. Najibullah said.

Commenting on Mikhail Gorbachev's speech in Murmansk, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee said that the Afghan people, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Afghan Government warmly support the Soviet peace policy, and do everything on their part to bring the long-awaited peace to this region as well.

The Soviet Union is a true friend which is always ready to come to help in a difficult moment, to render it selflessly and comprehensively, Dr. Najibullah said. Let me remind the now classic examples in the field of economic cooperation: the Kushka-Herat-Qandahar road, roads and tunnels through the Salang Passage, the Jangalak motor repair works, the Kabul house building plant and many others, which every Afghan knows and will never forget, he said.

At a critical moment for Democratic Afghanistan, the Soviet Union sent to our country its limited military contingent to help the Afghans defend their state sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the homeland, showing thus adherence to treaty obligations.

We express profound fraternal gratitude to the party and state leadership of the USSR and the Soviet people, the Afghan leader said. He stressed that the approaching 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution was a holiday not only for the Soviet people but also for entire progressive mankind and all revolutionaries worldwide.

The TASS correspondent asked a question: What has caused the fact that after the September 30 session of the Revolutionary Council you came to be named Najibullah instead of Najib.

Najib is short for Najibullah, the Afghan leader stressed. I was so called by my friends at the university and in the party. But when I was elected president of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, i.e. head of state, the members of the Revolutionary Council expressed an opinion that I should be called by my full name.

Ambassadors Congratulate Najib on New Post

LD061953 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] This morning at the headquarters of the PDPA Central Committee, Comrade Dr Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Revolutionary Council and DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, received a number of ambassadors from friendly countries in Kabul and spoke with them in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

A BIA correspondent reported that at this meeting, which took place in the presence of Comrade Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the DRA minister of foreign affairs, the ambassadors of the friendly countries expressed their sincere congratulations on the election of Comrade Dr Najibullah as president of the Revolutionary Council and of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, and wished him further success in accomplishing formidable party and government duties aimed at restoring security, nationwide peace, and tranquility for the toiling people of Afghanistan.

In expressing thanks Comrade Dr Najibullah then expressed a desire for a further consolidation of friendly and fraternal relations between the DRA and the friendly countries.

Pakistani Envoy Summoned; Shelling Denied

LD061658 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] The Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday morning where he was handed a protest note by the director of the First Political Section. It reads:

The Pakistani Government has claimed that on 21 September 1987 at 0750, the DRA Armed Forces shelled (Khazil Posh) village, Bajaur Agency, and on 16 September at 1700, fired rockets at a 5 km-area of (Arwala), Kurram Agency. Pakistan also claimed the DRA Armed Forces shelled the Rash region of Bajaur Agency on 22 September from 2035 to 2135.

After a complete investigation of these charges, relevant DRA authorities consider such claims by the Pakistani Government to be groundless and far from the truth. We reject these claims and demand that the Pakistani authorities put an end, as soon as possible, to these sorts of claims, which do nothing but aggravate the situation between the two countries. Otherwise the heavy responsibility of their consequences will rest with the Pakistani authorities.

Azerbaijan Delegation Attends Amity Week

LD070914 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 6, *Bakhtar*—To welcome the 70th anniversary of Great October Socialist Revolution, the Afghan-Soviet friendship week began here today with a function held at the hall of the House of Science and Culture of the Soviet Union.

The function was attended by Najmuddin Kawyiani, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the PDPA CC; Haydar Mas'ud, secretary of the PDPA CC; 'Abdur Rahim Hatef, chairman of the Central Council of National Front of the DRA; some members of Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers of the DRA; the high-ranking delegation of the Soviet Union headed by G. Fataliyev, minister of local industries of Azerbaijan SSR; P.P. Mozhayev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the DRA; as well as ambassadors of friendly countries in Kabul.

At the outset, Hayder Mas'ud, secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, spoke at the function about the existing fraternal friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

G. Fataliyev, alternate member of CPSU CC and minister of local ministries of Azerbaijan SSR, highly assessed the existing friendly and fraternal relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. He also talked about the spectacular progress which has been made in the Soviet Union since the Great October Revolution.

The delegation of Azerbaijan SSR is here to participate in the week of Afghan-Soviet Friendship.

India

Concern Expressed Over LTTE Executions

BK061616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] India has strongly condemned the brutal killing of eight Sri Lankan soldiers by the LTTE. An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that India learned about the killing with deep shock. He said the brutal killings are not only a violation of internationally recognized norms of treatment of unarmed prisoners but also a violation of all norms of civilized behavior.

The spokesman said that it is of great concern that the killings and yesterday's incident in which 12 LTTE men committed suicide after consuming cyanide pills took place when the process of negotiation was on. He said immediately after the Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, returned to Colombo he took up the matter at the highest level. The peacekeeping force has also been in touch with the LTTE and the Sri Lankan authorities.

The spokesman said that more than 3,000 Tamils have already been released by the Sri Lankan authorities. The LTTE has not returned any of the captives held by it.

Strongest Measures Assured

BK071452 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that India is determined to implement the provisions of the India-Sri Lanka agreement and will use all the force at its command to preserve peace and communal harmony in Sri Lanka. He said the Indian Government will not hesitate to use the strongest of measures to deal with all those who seek to undermine the implementation of the agreement.

He said the peacekeeping force has accordingly been instructed to take all necessary measures to deal with the situation that has arisen. The strength of the peacekeeping force has been suitably augmented in the recent days for this purpose.

Expressing India's deep shock and revulsion at the brutal killings, the spokesman said these followed the acts of intimidation, violence, and coercion by the LTTE in which it killed over 100 fellow Tamils after the signing of

the agreement. He said the Indian Government has made every possible attempt to make the LTTE renounce the cult of violence and resort to democratic means to ensure the welfare and well-being [of] Tamils which it claims to represent.

Rohini Rocket 'Successfully' Launched

BK070338 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Karnataka, scientists of ISRO [Indian Space Research Organization] have launched successfully the Rohini sounding rocket—RH 300—from the Sriharikota launch range. The rocket, developed at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center at Trivandrum, carried a 56-kg instrumentation payload. The vehicle reached an altitude of 158 km.

Daily on Siachen Glacier Clash With Pakistan

BK070618 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 1 Oct 87 p 8

[Editorial: "Vigilance Is All"]

[Text] The Indo-Pak clash at Siachen Glacier has underlined the vital importance of maintaining the maximum possible vigil all along the border between the two countries. There have been shooting incidents in this area in the last three years but these were relatively minor. A more serious incident took place last June when some Pakistani troops infiltrated into a stretch overlooking the Saltoro pass, one of the four which provide access to Siachen at a height of 19,000 ft. After this abortive lunge at the glacier, the Indian defenders there were strengthened. That was just as well. For the present Pakistani attack was obviously a concerted major bid not just to weaken the Indian position on Siachen but to dislodge all its posts there and capture it.

The Pakistani intention was clear from two facts. First, the Pakistani troops tried to breach the Indian pickets on three successive nights from September 23 with heavy bombardment. Secondly, all the four strategic passes, Sia La, Indira Col, Bilafond, and Saltoro were attacked simultaneously. Apparently, the Pakistani troops went all-out to capture Siachen at this time in the belief that the onset of winter soon will make it next to impossible for the Indians to mount a major counteraction to dislodge them.

Siachen, overlooking a deep valley to the west, facilitates access to Ladakh. Its military value apart, there has been important political compulsion for Pakistan's top brass to gain possession of the huge glacier. It is not merely retired Army officers in Pakistan who have criticised Gen Zia for having allowed India to strengthen its control over Siachen but his main political rival, Ms Benazir Bhutto, who no doubt sees in the issue an opportunity to underline the military regime's inefficiency even in military matters and to strengthen her case for the restoration of full-fledged democratic regime.

Gen Zia has also been assailed for having embroiled Pakistan in the Afghan affair, the thrust of the argument being that Pakistan's "main enemy" is in the east and deserves undivided attention. It will be no surprise if, in view of such pressures on Gen Zia, Siachen remains high on his priorities. The country cannot, therefore, afford even a slight lowering of the guard on the Indo-Pak border.

Captured 'Terrorist' Reports Pakistani Aid

BK070855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Punjab, security forces arrested two terrorists after an encounter on the outskirts of Moga town, Faridkot District last night. One of the terrorists, Inderjit Singh, confessed that he was responsible for the killing of Police Inspector Jarnail Singh in Amritsar in July last year. He also told police that he got training from Pakistan Army officers in Faisalabad, Kasur, and Lahore.

As already reported, nine persons, including a terrorist, were killed in separate incidents last night.

2 Killed, 14 Injured by Police in Gujarat

BK061628 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] In Gujarat, 2 persons were killed and 14 injured when police resorted to firing at 6 places in Rajkot to disperse violent crowds today. The disturbances in the city started following bundh [strike] called by the Students Action Committee to protest against the transfer of the town municipal commissioner. Markets and educational institutions remained closed. Bus services were paralyzed. Several incidents of looting and arson were also reported. A 24-hour curfew has been imposed.

The district authorities have appealed to the Students Action Committee to withdraw the agitation.

Rajkot 'Under Control'

BK070336 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Gujarat, the situation in Rajkot is under control. The curfew imposed yesterday following disturbances in the city will continue as a precautionary measure. The night remained peaceful, barring a minor incident of burning of a vehicle. The authorities have made elaborate arrangements to ensure smooth conduct of the secondary school certificate and higher secondary schools examinations.

9, Including 'Terrorist,' Killed in Punjab

BK070328 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Punjab, nine persons, including a terrorist, were killed in separate incidents last night. In Hoshiarpur District, six persons, including a woman, were gunned down by terrorists in village Udiyan about 10 km from Hoshiarpur town. According to an official spokesman, some terrorists came to the village in a tractor at about 2100 and opened indiscriminate fire on a group of people standing in the street. Five persons, including a woman, were killed. While escaping, the terrorists killed another person on the outskirts of the village. Police and paramilitary forces have launched a massive manhunt for the culprits.

In Amritsar District, terrorists killed a farmer in a village, Valtoha Police Station, and an ex-police constable in another village under Taran Taran Police Station.

In Jullundur District, one terrorist was killed in an encounter with the police in Nakodar Police Station area. His two accomplices, however, managed to escape.

Iran

Tehran Cites Attack on Saudi Ship in Gulf

LD071054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] AFP reported that sources connected to Lloyds of London insurance company announced today that a Saudi oil tanker named *Ra'd al-Baqr VIII*, was attacked by a speedboat near Dubayy port in the Persian Gulf at 1005. The same report indicates that the said oil tanker was built in 1960 with the capacity of 12,770 tonnes. Lloyds of London did not specify the extent of damage inflicted on the ship.

AFP also reported, that shipping sources in the Persian Gulf announced: A fast gunboat attacked a cargo ship in the southern sector of the Persian Gulf near the coast of Sharjah Amirate, early this morning. On the basis of this report, the identity of the ship and the degree of damage inflicted on it is not yet made clear. According to the said sources, only a short message was received from the ship's captain about the attack.

Naval Maneuvers, Conflict With U.S. Viewed

LD061809 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1550 GMT 6 Oct 87

[First political commentary: "The New Freedom Maneuvers and the United States' Ever-Increasing Fear"]

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] naval force last Saturday ended maneuvers codenamed "New Freedom Maneuvers" that were carried out to increase the preparation of Islam's fighters to defend the islands and oil fields of the Persian Gulf. In these maneuvers, which lasted for 3 days, some units from the IRGC's 2d Naval Region, in attaining all their predetermined goals, demonstrated the capability of monotheism's forces to confront the movements of foreign forces.

Reports transmitted by Western news media show that the Pentagon, in addition to putting the *USS Guadalcanal* on full alert, also ordered the United States' largest warship, which also took part in escort operations for the Kuwaiti vessel *Gas Prince*, to end its escort operations and instead head for the northern part of the Persian Gulf to join the *Guadalcanal*.

This is the first time that a U.S. warship engaged in escort operations has been removed from its escort convoy to take part in a new mission. Although U.S. newsmen stationed on the *USS La Salle*—which transmitted the report concerning that warship's change of course—tried to imply that U.S. forces were on a state of alert, political observers believe that this action by the Pentagon demonstrates the U.S. war ministry's ever-increasing anxiety concerning the probable operations of Islamic fighters. This anxiety has spread beyond Pentagon officials and has even reached a number of U.S. politicians, to the extent that Alexander Haig, the Reagan's administration first secretary of state and a present Republican presidential candidate, announced that the United States should not confront Iran as Iranian forces possess a great capability for carrying out operations.

Nevertheless, the U.S. war minister [not further identified] announced policies; namely, that U.S. forces will remain in the region until they achieve their goals. His remarks that the Islamic Republic of Iran is an unreasonable regime and cannot agree to a compromise, demonstrate U.S. hostile and aggressive aims. Reports from Western sources concerning U.S. exercises on German shores for amphibious operations, as well as joint U.S.-Somali maneuvers and Washington-Cairo maneuvers, show that the United States is planning a serious confrontation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

One can interpret all the political, economic, and military pressures exerted by the United States against Islamic Iran as a prelude to arriving at a critical stage. At present, Washington has not only used all its efforts to bring the Islamic Republic of Iran to its knees, but it is also making use of the Iraqi regime as a means to implement its policies. Attacks by Iraqi fighter aircraft against our country's industrial and civilian targets, attacks that are guided by the intelligence data put at Iraq's disposal by Washington, are examples of U.S. pressures.

The Iraqi regime, whose entire military force has been concentrated in its Air Force and which is aware that its ground and naval forces have lost their capability, tries to implement with its attacks the economic pressures desired by Washington. However, the future will show that this move also will be defeated by the powerful

retaliatory operations by the forces of Islam. In view of Iraq's internal situation, in this contest the real losers will be the ruling regime in Baghdad.

U.S. politicians and their agents in Iraq should pay heed to the fact that their daily increasing threats will not strike fear into the hearts of monotheism's forces or the steadfast Islamic ummah. On the contrary, an increase in these threats will only further strengthen their solid ranks. On the other hand, the fighters of Islam have proven that if a face-to-face confrontation with the United States begins, they will be fully prepared to bring the U.S. forces to their knees and that they consider no battle sweeter than confrontation against imperialist aggression.

Iraq Threatened With More Reprisals

NC060602 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] In response to the Iraqi Zionist regime's recent bombings of residential, labor, and industrial areas and oil installations in our country, and following the Islamic Republic of Iran's earlier warnings to international organizations, the Baghdad-based military training center for Special Republic Guard Forces of Iraq was hit by two of the Islamic fighters' surface-to-surface missiles at 2230 last night and 0038 this morning [1900 and 2108 GMT, respectively].

The General Staff of the triple forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] announced these missile attacks. It also reiterated its warning to Iraq's criminal leaders that if they do not end their mischiefs, the fighters of Islam will continue their reprisals even more powerfully and forcefully. The IRGC General Staff stressed that military, economic, and industrial centers throughout Iraq—with the exception of the four safe cities—will be the targets of the Islamic fighters' retaliatory and deterrent operations.

Following the Islamic combatants' missile attacks on the Baghdad-based military training center for Special Republic Guard Forces of Iraq last night and this morning, the War Information Headquarters announced that if the enemy does not halt its mischiefs, the fighters of Islam will undoubtedly continue their deterrent operations more decisively. The fighters of Islam will aim their revolutionary rage at the economic, military, and industrial installations throughout Iraq, with the exception of those located in the four safe cities, until the Baghdad leaders regret their actions.

Dear listeners: I wish to point out that in their reports from Baghdad, *Reuter* and AFP confirmed that Baghdad was hit by two missiles of the IRGC missile unit.

Tehran Views Missile Strikes on Baghdad

LD061311 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1108 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A Guards Corps missile unit fired two surface-to-surface missiles at predetermined targets in Baghdad late last night and early this morning, giving a decisive reply to the wrongdoings of the Baghdad regime.

About 1 month ago, the Baghdad regime commenced a new phase of attacks on industrial and nonmilitary areas and oil tankers in the Persian Gulf by stepping up its attacks at various times. These attacks martyred dozens of our compatriots and injured hundreds more.

In view of the Iraqi regime's continued attacks on civilian areas, its insistance on carrying on with its wrongdoings, and its disregard of the warnings given by Islamic Iran last week, the Iranian missile attack has dealt an effective blow to the Baghdad rulers. Moreover, the Iraqi regime's attacks on oil tankers in the Persian Gulf yesterday demonstrate another aspect of the warmongering policy of the Iraqi regime in spreading the war to other areas.

Last week, the War Information Headquarters issued statements strongly condemning the continuation of the Iraqi regime's wrongdoings, which have been assisted by spy satellites and open support from some permanent members of the Security Council. It called the recent audacity of the Iraqi regime in attacking residential and civilian areas part and parcel of U.S. attempts to force Islamic Iran to yield to illogical and unfair demands.

The War Information Headquarters also pointed out that the continued attacks on towns and the killing and injuring of workers and civilians will not go unanswered, but would be strongly confronted. At the same time, it called on international bodies to show some reaction to the criminal acts of the Iraqi regime and not to give it a free hand to attack Islamic Iran.

Nevertheless, international bodies and UN officials made no attempt in this respect, and ignored Iran's warnings and preventive measures against the continuation of these wrongdoings. If Iran ever hesitates in responding or retaliating, it is because it takes account of human values and the Ba'thist regime's oppression of the Muslim people of Iraq. Otherwise, answering a regime that is drowning in the quagmire of its evil policies and that resorts to any measures to save itself is not difficult or impossible.

In any case, it is hoped that the events of the past months, which included a new round of Iraqi wrongdoings in attacking towns and oil tankers, would end with Iran's missile reply.

Once again we give warning that if the Iraqi regime continues to attack Islamic Iran, it will receive a harsher reply. The strong arms of the fighters of Islam will slap the accursed Baghdad regime even harder.

Tehran Commentary Assesses U.S. Moves in Gulf
NC061201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0500 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Unattributed commentary from the "Voice of the Front" feature]

[Text] The Persian Gulf crisis assumed a more extensive dimension following the attack by U.S. military helicopters against the Iranian cargo ship *Iran-Ajr*. This White House military operation in the Persian Gulf officially placed the cooperation between America and Saddam's regime in the aggression against the Islamic revolution into a new military phase. The situation created following this action has plunged America into a serious crisis from which it cannot safely emerge. America's aggressive military attack on the Iranian cargo ship took place on the same day that Reagan, in his speech to the UN General Assembly, called on the Islamic Republic of Iran to explicitly state its positive or negative stand concerning UN Resolution No 598. As America spectacularly escalated its military presence in the Persian Gulf in tandem with UN approval of this resolution, the behavior of White House officials displayed first and foremost their preparedness to be drawn into a grave military crisis in order to support the Iraqi regime and to save Saddam. This crisis will definitely not be of a smaller dimension than the Vietnam crisis.

Second, America, which has entered into a practical and overt phase of supporting Saddam's regime, has begun its multifaceted efforts to pressure the Islamic Republic of Iran in an attempt to force the Islamic revolution to compromise with two apparently conflicting and contradictory moves and without a logical framework. America has based the propaganda of its actions in the imposed war on the need to end the war and to create calm in the region. However, White House actions are moving toward the direction of continuing the military dimension of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Escalating the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf violates Resolution No 598 and contravenes this same resolution that was supported by America. Also, simultaneous with the UN General Assembly and Reagan's speech, the aggressive attack on the Iranian vessel manifested the contradiction of words and deeds in the U.S. strategy.

What one can conclude from the various dimensions of the United States' present phase of moves in the region is that it is determined to change the current course of military developments stemming from the Iran-Iraq war. This will inevitably lead to Saddam's downfall. The course of U.S. strategy's new phase is very clear within this context. For 7 years, America has acted directly and indirectly—through Arab reaction—as the strong mentor of Saddam's aggressive regime while also simultaneously advocating impartiality in the war. This 7-year policy was based on the calculation that Saddam's regime was a strong one, one that could remain in power with financial aid and arms provided by the East and West.

However, when the Islamic Republic's victories extended operations to the enemy's territory, the bell tolled for imperialism and especially for America. The region's conservative pro-Western puppet regimes were extremely disturbed. The occupation of Al-Faw made Arab reaction, especially Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, extremely vulnerable and forced America to launch a new political-military move and enter the arena of this conflict as an alternative aimed at changing the war's balance to save Saddam. This new situation was dictated by America's active and face-to-face confrontation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In this phase, the considerations of 7 years were overshadowed by methods of saving Saddam. This was the only weapon left to America. Thus, by ignoring past considerations, the White House adopted the policy of confrontation with the Islamic Republic. What is certain is that in the first phase, America expected to politically force the Islamic Republic of Iran to accept the White House's objectives. However, the Islamic Republic's successful policy vis-a-vis U.S strategy foiled this dimension of efforts by White House officials.

America lay in wait for the Security Council to implement the second phase of its new plan—imposing an international economic and arms embargo upon Iran. At this point, the Islamic Republic of Iran's active political confrontation coupled with our president's speech to the UN General Assembly were foreseen as successful steps that could place America in an impasse as far as the second phase of its efforts was concerned. Thus, we witnessed the White House's illogical use of military force and how Reagan and the U.S. Administration officials—despite their military defeats in Vietnam and Lebanon—continue to insist on their discredited belief that bullying tactics are effective. They thus expected that a military move in the Persian Gulf would make Iran lose faith in itself and possibly make it display a flexibility in its views.

U.S. domestic circles believe that the White House thought this half-hatched military move would have the anticipated effect upon President Khamene'i's speech and that Islamic Iran would have shown flexibility in explicitly answering Resolution No 598. This time, as always, America was defeated. They have continually committed grave mistakes in their assessment of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These are the result of ignoring the parameters of faith and of the Islamic belief in the people. They continue to believe in vain that by using the weapon of pressure and bully tactics, they can change any balance to their benefit.

This is the same view that unleashed the Iran-Iraq war. This war was also based on the view that Iran lacked an organized force in the conventional sense and thus could not resist Iraq's conventional and united army. However, the sacred defense during the past 7 years has disproved this view. America used the same method during the occupation of the nest of spies. Also, with regard to the economic embargo and other moves, the method was founded precisely on the basis of this very view of America, namely, its underestimation of the Islamic revolution. Although America was defeated in all of these actions, it nevertheless did not learn from them.

The White House and the Pentagon are now drawing America into the dangerous whirlpool of Persian Gulf incidents. By attacking Iran's commercial vessel, America set off a move in the Persian Gulf, a move that is a prologue to playing with fire—a fire in which American power and military strength will definitely burn. At this juncture, too, America has not achieved its aim of altering the Islamic Republic of Iran's positions. In addition, the speech that Mr Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic, delivered at the UN General Assembly, had a great and positive impact on political and mass media circles. This outcome was contrary to America's expectations.

Thus, a few hours after Mr Khamene'i's speech, America's reaction in the form of efforts to implement an economic and arms embargo against Iran began with serious support from Britain. In a news conference following our president's speech, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz stated that America has begun efforts within the framework of negotiations with Security Council permanent members to secure approval of the resolution calling for an embargo on Iran. However, America's military move in the Persian Gulf and the baseless remarks by White House officials—especially following the destruction and sinking of the Iranian vessel, acts aimed at destroying evidence—made America appear guilty in the eyes of the world.

The positive impact of Iran's political move and especially the president's speech also inflicted a great defeat on America in this phase as well. The Security Council did not give in to America's request, and the issue of Iran's embargo was postponed even though, as Shultz believes, an arms embargo on Iran will neither be very successful nor affect the war's course to a great extent. The White House suffered a great loss as a result of its failed effort in the new phase of its strategy for a confrontation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has now entered the phase of retaliation against America and of defending itself against American aggression. It will do this on the basis of the strong Islamic principle of "Do unto others as they do unto you." Iran considers it to be its religious duty to answer any aggression by America with a serious retaliatory act. America has thus been drawn into a situation which it itself has created.

The Islamic Republic of Iran never sought an expansion of the war. The objective of our sacred defense has been to punish Saddam as the aggressor in order to ensure the region's long-term security. However, America has linked its destiny with the war's destiny and that of Saddam. The U.S. nation definitely cannot tolerate a situation in which it will have to receive the corpses of U.S. soldiers killed in the Persian Gulf. Reagan and the White House do not have an explanation for the American people concerning the killing of Americans in the Persian Gulf. However, the Muslim Iranian people consider the war against the U.S. aggressors to be a struggle against blasphemy and atheism and resistance in the face of aggression against their Islamic homeland. They see it as a religious duty with the lofty goal of martyrdom.

Thus, America has with its own hands created a situation in the Persian Gulf that will certainly result in nothing but the defeat of its flimsy dignity. Therefore, America's only alternative to benefit the Pentagon and White House officials is to withdraw from the Persian Gulf as quickly as possible. America should not link its destiny with Saddam's destiny because efforts to maintain Saddam will only be deterimental to America. If America continues to insist on its present policy in the region, it will definitely burn in the flames of a fire that will be sparked by the anti-American rage of both our people and the region's people.

Commentary on U.S. Interference in Gulf

LD031400 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1057 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The remarks by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, during the Tehran Friday prayers, concerning the reasons for the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf—a presence aimed at interfering in the region's affairs—and its attack on the *Iran-Ajr*, as well as the possibility of future entanglement with the United States, have elicited a worldwide reaction and have been widely covered by the foreign media. He described the recent move by the United States against Iran—which is similar to the first invasion of Iran by the Ba'thists—as a threat to confront the Islamic Revolution. He also said that in the event of an engagement, available evidence will show that it was the United States which initated the attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The United States' inherent hostility toward the Islamic Revolution has been manifested in various forms since the victory of the revolution. The start of the war by the Iraqi regime against Islamic Iran fits in with this pattern. On the other hand, the United States has tried to keep the Ba'thist regime of Iraq on its feet through its diplomatic efforts in the international forums and, recently, in the United Nations. This is the result of the Security

Council's approving Resolution No 598, and is also an effort to keep the Iraqi regime safe from the results of Iran's victories on the battlefield.

This effort by the United States was undertaken with its military presence in the region. With this treacherous conspiracy, which provided military protection for the Iraqi regime, the United States is trying to engage Islamic Iran in another front in the Persian Gulf.

Statements by the U.S. authorities—particularly statements made by Weinberger last week after visiting several countries in the Persian Gulf and expressing his concern over the existence of the Islamic Republic of Iran—clearly indicate the scope of the U.S. authorities' hostile views.

Available evidence indicates that by attacking the *Iran-Ajr*, the Americans were the initiator of the recent move against Islamic Iran. If the United States imagines that in order to force Iran to accept unjust resolutions it must use military methods, then it is wrong. The United States—which already experienced defeat in the historical event in Tabas [abortive rescue operation in 1980], in the failure of its economic blockade in 1979, and in its failed attempts to support tension inside the country, especially in the border provinces—must have learned from experience that any attempt to force a compromise on Islamic Iran is a futile undertaking. The bitter memory of U.S. interference in Vietnam has not been forgotten by the American people. Moreover, Americans will not allow themselves to be dragged into another war in the Persian Gulf region through the interventionist activities of the authorities of their country. Such a war would certainly have more dire consequences than those of the Vietnam war.

Meanwhile, the basis and nature of the strength of Islamic Iran stem from the mutual confidence between the Muslim people and the leaders of the Islamic Revolution. This reciprocal trust between the people and their leaders has been a determining factor during the vicissitudes of the Islamic Revolution and has brought about great victories in the social, political, and military fields.

However, the success of the Islamic Revolution must be attributed to the faith, self-denial, and reliance of every individual Iranian Muslim on God, as well as their solidarity and presence in the social scene and in unexpected developments and transformations. Indeed, 7 years of holy defense clearly shows that the people will continue to resist and to stand against the conspiracies of global arrogance, whether big or small.

What attracts attention and must be carefully viewed is the tendency of the U.S. Government leaders to bring about a direct confrontation with the Islamic Revolution. At present, the Islamic Republic of Iran is aware of these trends. In the past, the Muslim people of Iran have learned military capabilities and special warfare techniques. They applied their skills on the actual fields of battle and in war against the aggressor regime. Therefore, a readiness to confront the United States and its [words indistinct] is available now more than ever before. Sweet moments for the fighters will come when they fire their shots at U.S. interventionists.

Yesterday's speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani creates new conditions under which all able forces must be present on the battlefields, because the people's massive presence on the battlefields will make possible greater mobility on different frontlines. Moreover, the mobility of the forces on the battlefields will enable Islamic Iran to curb the mischiefs of the 'Aflaqi regime of Saddam—mischiefs which have increased with tension in the region and by attacks on merchant ships and oil tankers. Moreover, this mobility will also free the hands of the commanders in their confrontation with the mischiefs of the United States.

In any case, it must emphasized again that Iran is intact. At an opportune moment, the fighters of Islam will deliver a strong reply the United States' irrelevant [as heard] interventions. As the honorable speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said, the people must be properly prepared for such a confrontation in the near future.

Rafiqdust, Military Officials Meet Montazeri

LD061747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Mr Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], together with a number of the Armed Forces officials responsible for military industries, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday.

Ministers Depart for Libya, Burkina Faso

LD070944 Tehran IRNA in English 0926 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—Acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati left Tehran for Libya Wednesday morning. Besharati is to hold talks with Libyan officials on mutual relations, the latest regional developments and the Persian Gulf crisis caused by U.S. aggressive policies.

Meanwhile the Foreign Ministry deputy for political affairs, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam left Tehran for Burkina Faso Wednesday morning to attend an anti-apartheid seminar. Sheykh ol-Eslam will also discuss the Persian Gulf issues and U.S. intervention in the region as well as expansion of bilateral ties with Burkina Faso officials.

Tunisian Islamic Spokesman Denies Tehran Link

LD061223 Tehran IRNA in English 1140 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Madrid, Oct. 6, IRNA—A spokesman for the Islamic movement in Tunisia in an interview with the Madrid-based weekly *Independent* rejected any connection between the movement and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The spokesman whose name was not disclosed, told the weekly that the objective of the movement was to establish a democratic atmosphere in which all parties could freely take part in political life of Tunisia. He stressed that they were seeking freedom of speech, and civil liberties, and establishment of a democratic republic system based on Islamic values.

Nationals' Deaths in UK Linked to U.S. Policy

LD031959 Tehran IRNA in English 1632 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] London, Oct. 3, IRNA—The Iranian Embassy in London has linked the killing of two Iranians in London with America's aggressive policy towards the Islamic Republic. It also said the safety of Iranians living in Britain is the responsibility of the British authorities.

At a time when the U.S. had attacked an Iranian commercial ship, and the Iranian people were resisting American threats "the killing of the citizens of the Islamic Republic could be interpreted in line with the general policies of the US Government towards the Islamic Revolution," an embassy statement said Saturday.

"While condemning any kind of inhuman and terrorist act especially the killing of innocent people," the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran "expresses that the provision of security for Iranian citizens residing in Britain is a responsibility of the British Government."

Ali Tavakoli and his 20-year-old son Nadir were found shot dead at their home in Wembley, North West London, Friday evening.

SAIRI Statement Notes Planned Maneuvers

LD061239 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Following the victories of the fighters from the Badr Ninth Division, the military unit of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, SAIRI, in a statement on Tuesday congratulated the imam of the ummah and the nations of Iran and Iraq. [Passage omitted]

The statement refers to extensive maneuvers named "Azadi-ye Karbala'" [Liberation of Karbala', a holy city in Iraq], which will be held in Jam'karan, near Qom, on 13 October and says: During this maneuver, the Hezbollahi ummah of Iraq will renew their allegiance to the prophetic leadership of his holiness the imam, may his lofty shadow continue. They will also demonstrate the might and capability of the reserve organization and the Hezbollahi units to confront the infidels of the East and the West.

SAIRI Lauds Mojahedin's 'Zafar-2' Victories

LD070844 Tehran IRNA in English 0834 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6, IRNA—The military unit of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) in a statement Tuesday congratulated Imam Khomeyni and Iranian and Iraqi nations for recent victories achieved by Iraqi Muslim Mojahedin in their Zafar-2 operations.

The statement said that SAIRI combatants in their victorious operations in Iraq Sunday, purged the city of Kifri of Iraqi Ba'thist forces, reaching 26 targets.

It expressed hope that with the escalation of the movement of oppressed Iraqi people, the war Iraq imposed on war [as received] would end to the benefit of Islam and Muslims.

Locally Made Tugboat Launched in Caspian Sea

LD061618 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Rasht, Gilan Prov., Oct. 6, IRNA—The first Iran-made tugboat called *Val-Asr* was launched in the Caspain Sea from Bandar-e Anzali port today, in the presence of the Roads and Transport Minister Mohammad Seyyed-Kya.

Speaking at the ceremony, an official of the ports and shipping organisation said the tugboat manufactured in less than four months, has saved 500,000 dollars in foreign exchange for the country.

Val-Asr, which was manufactured according to the international standards, is able to tug ships with 5,000 tons of capacity. He termed the manufacture of the boat as the first step towards self-sufficiency in northern Iran's shipbuilding yard.

Meanwhile, the official said that a shipping line will be established from the northern ports of Bandar-e Anzali and Nowshahr to Baku in Soviet Azarbayjan to transport Iran's exports and imports by two Iranian cargo ships.

He said Iran and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle on the establishment of this line.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Iraq's Azmar Heights Shelled

LD061421 Tehran IRNA in English 1411 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6, IRNA—Iraqi installations on Azmar Heights, Al- Sulaymaniyah Province were targeted by heavy Iranian artillery fire Monday night and Tuesday morning sustaining considerable losses, Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) reported today.

During the shelling, the headquarters said a radio and television relay station on the heights was destroyed and a radar warning center and radio jamming pylons were set afire.

Headquarters of Iraqi troops, local mercenaries and counterrevolutionary elements located in Azmar Pass were also shelled by Iranian artillery in which 100 enemy troops were killed and wounded, said the IRGC Headquarters.

Communique No 2,981

LD061616 Tehran IRNA in English 1548 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6, IRNA—An Iraqi jet fighter, attempting to raid Iran's southern oil installations, was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire at 12:47 hours local time (09:17 GMT) Monday. It was the second enemy plane downed over the southern water yesterday within a few minutes.

Announcing the above, the 2981st Joint Staff Communique reported here Tuesday that Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched 11 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Monday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces exchanged artillery fire with Iraqi troops in the southern fronts Monday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting afire at least 10 gun emplacements and a heavy vehicle of theirs.

In the northwestern and western sectors, Iraqi troops sustained several casualties and a number of enemy gun emplacements and observation posts, two munitions dumps and a vehicle were destroyed in artillery duels with Iranian combatants Monday, concluded the communique.

Pakistan

Spokesman Says Soviet MI-24's Land in NWFP

BK061604 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman told journalists in a statement in Islamabad a short while ago that two Soviet MI-24 gunships penetrated Pakistani territory on the 3d of this month [as heard] and later landed on the Mastuj subdivision of Chitral District in NWFP.

As this area is mountainous and inaccessible, it took 24 hours for Pakistani authorities to reach them. The statement says the Soviet Government has said that the violation of Pakistani territory was not done deliberately and it requested the release of the crew. The Government of Pakistan has decided to hand over the crew to the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad. The Foreign Office statement says that the Soviet crew damaged the gunships and now they cannot fly. It will take much time to repair them.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 1544 GMT on 6 October in a similar report says: "Pakistani authorities Saturday detained six Soviet nationals after they landed in the country in two gunship helicopters on a mission for the KGB, a Foreign Office spokesman said Tuesday.

["The spokesman said the six were identified as members of the 2177 Army Unit affiliated with the Guard Brigade of the KGB, the Soviet secret service."]

More on Soviet Gunships

BK061700 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in a statement in Islamabad this evening said that two Soviet armed MI-24 gunships penetrated over 50 km deep into Pakistan territory last Saturday [3 October], finally landing in the Mastuj subdivision of the Chitral District in NWFP. Because of the difficulty of access to the highly mountainous terrain where the gunships landed, it took Pakistani authorities over 24 hours to apprehend the crew.

Brought to Islamabad yesterday evening the crew explained that they were not part of the Soviet occupation force in Afghanistan. They belong to an army unit affiliated with the KGB Guard Brigade and started from Alma Ata in the Kazakh Republic of the Soviet Union, and traversed across the Vakhan corridor of Afghanistan before crisscrossing into Pakistan airspace.

The statement said after the two gunships landed in Pakistan several Soviet aircraft flew over the site on Saturday and Sunday.

The Government of Pakistan protested to the Soviet Government against these deliberate violations of Pakistan's airspace, flouting the universally accepted norms of international law.

Only recently, a civilian pilot of a small unarmed plane which flew into Moscow without the requisite permission of the Soviet Government was sentenced by the Soviet authorities to 4 years imprisonment. Stating that the violation of the Pakistan airspace by the two gunships was inadvertent, the Soviet Government requested for the release of the Soviet crew.

The Government of Pakistan has decided to hand them over to the Soviet Embassy in Islamabad. The gunships were damaged by the Soviet crew and are no longer in flying condition. It will take considerable time and effort to bring them out. The six-man crew includes a major and a captain.

Replying to a question, the spokesman said all the crew were treated very well. They received medical treatment and were provided with reasonable, comfortable accommodations. Two of them had high fevers and were given proper medical treatment. Answering another question the spokesman said they have been handed over to the Soviet Embassy as a goodwill gesture.

HAIDER on U.S.-USSR Rivalry in Afghanistan

BK061401 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 23 Sep 87 p 3

[Editorial: "The Afghanistan Issue and the Rivalry Between the Two Superpowers"]

[Text] Speaking at the inaugural session of the UN General Assembly, U.S. President Reagan urged the Soviet Union to fix a date for the withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan, because there is no justification to continue the brutal war there. He said the Kabul administration's days are numbered and efforts to sustain it are fruitless. He said, the time for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan has come closer now. The Afghan people have the right to determine their future without any foreign pressure.

According to President Reagan, the Kabul government's proposals for a solution to the Afghanistan problem are actually attempts to prolong its power. He said acts of resistance in Afghanistan are growing daily. This resistance is an indispensable factor in the search for a political settlement. He said: If the Soviet Union puts forward any agreeable strategy for a practical political solution, I assure you the United States is ready to extend all possible cooperation.

President Reagan said in spite of severe pressure and threats, Pakistan has been giving asylum to Afghan refugees. We respect the morale and courage of the Government of Pakistan and its people. We all should fully support Pakistan.

On the one hand, while addressing the UN General Assembly, President Reagan advised the Soviet Union to leave Afghanistan. On the other hand, reports in *The Washington Post* said the U.S. Government has decided to send long-range artillery and mine-clearing equipment to the Afghan mujahidin who have already been provided with Stinger missiles over and above the usual supply of weapons.

The majority of international public opinion has protested the presence of Soviet forces in Afghanistan and has appealed to the Soviet Union to recall its forces from Afghanistan without delay. However, the Soviet Union is using delaying tactics on this matter out of sheer apprehension that perhaps, soon after the withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan, a pro-American government may be set up in Kabul, posing a continuous threat to the Soviet Union in its own neighborhood.

The Soviet Union wants to stabilize the present government in Afghanistan and to see that the refugees return and participate in the reconciliation process so that when its forces pull out of Afghanistan, there will be no threatening voices coming from Kabul against Moscow.

Perhaps the Soviet Union plans to withdraw its troops at such a slow pace that should any danger arise, it could immediately halt the process and deal with the situation. Yet, this is only one side of the picture.

There is also another side and it concerns U.S. assistance to the mujahidin. The United States, which covertly provided the mujahidin with arms and materiel in the beginning, is now openly providing the mujahidin with sophisticated weapons. Can the Soviet Union be expected to leave the Kabul government alone and depart Afghanistan in this situation?

Any person who keeps a close watch on the situation will not expect the Soviet Union to pull its troops out of Afghanistan seeing an improvement in the quality and quantity of U.S. military assistance to the mujahidin. However, we can confidently say that so long as this U.S. encouragement and assistance to the mujahidin continues, the Soviet Union will not withdraw its forces from Afghanistan.

In other words, the continuous U.S. assistance to the rebels implies that in reality the United States does not want the Soviet Union to pull its forces out of Afghanistan. It wants to exhaust the Soviet Union in this region.

However, this rivalry between the two superpowers is by and large harmful to the other countries of the region and their people. Neither of the two superpowers is prepared to stop its military assistance to its supporters. The U.S. President's speech at the General Assembly makes it quite clear that the United States desires to remove the present regime in Kabul at all costs and is not at all prepared to accept its reconciliation process or any other proposal.

In these circumstances and events, the fact that this issue cannot be solved by mere use of force should also be kept in mind. Whatever military strength the United States may use through the Afghan mujahidin, it will not be able to remove the Soviet Union from Afghanistan.

Logically, the United States' providing sophisticated weapons to the mujahidin may force the Soviet Union to increase its forces in Afghanistan and start arming them with sophisticated weapons. If the Soviet Union decides to do so, a major war could break out in this region at any time. This will directly affect Pakistan. In view of the policy of the United States to continue arming the mujahidin, it is now necessary that other nations of the region fully assume their individual and collective roles in solving the Afghanistan issue.

India, an ally of the Soviet Union, and China, a big power, should make efforts to establish peace in the region and to restore a nonaligned status to Afghanistan. If these countries do not use their good offices with the United States and the Soviet Union, this region will be endlessly affected by the rivalry between the two superpowers.

Government Protests DRA Shelling in Bajaur

BK070808 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Afghan Armed Forces fired artillery rounds at two places in Bajaur Agency on 29 and 30 September, killing one and injuring seven persons. A house and a primary school building were also damaged. A protest note in this connection was handed to the Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad.

Talks With India on Wular Lake Conclude

BK070418 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] India and Pakistan have expressed confidence about reaching a settlement on the Wular Lake issue in accordance to the Indus Basin Treaty of 1960. The secretary-level talks in Islamabad to iron out differences ended yesterday. The second round of discussion will take place in New Delhi next month.

The Indian side to the talks, led by the secretary in the Water Resource Ministry, Mr Naresh Chandra, assured the Pakistani delegation that the control structure in the Wular Lake will in no way interfere with the flow of water to Pakistan.

Sri Lanka

Reportage on Tamil Activities, Violence

7 Killed in Batticaloa

BK070312 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, at least seven Sinhalese civilians were killed last night as violence rocked the Eastern District of Batticaloa. Six persons, including four women, were killed when armed men shot members of a family and dumped their bodies near the Batticaloa railway station.

At (Vanachanai), about 25 km northwest of Batticaloa, a passenger train going to Colombo was stopped at 2200 last night and set on fire. The whole train with 12 passenger coaches is reported to have been reduced to ashes. One dead body was found in the charred train.

In another incident, a joint patrol of the peacekeeping force and Sri Lankan police was fired at near Batticaloa town. One soldier of the peacekeeping force and one Sri Lankan policeman sustained injuries.

Our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, reports life remained at a standstill in Batticaloa town this morning following last night's violence.

55 People 'Gunned Down'

BK070512 Hong Kong AFP in English 0507 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Colombo, Oct 7 (AFP) — At least 55 people, mostly women and children, were gunned down in a fresh outbreak of violence in Sri Lanka's eastern Batticaloa District, police and residents said Wednesday.

Police said suspected gunmen of the dominant Tamil militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), raided the Sinhalese village of Punnacholai and mowed down 38 people Tuesday night.

In another incident early Wednesday, an armed gang went from house to house looking for Sinhalese and killed 17 people within Batticaloa town, 300 kilometres (190 miles) east of Colombo, a Roman Catholic priest in the town said.

Police said the killings were an apparent retaliation by the LTTE to a mass suicide by 13 of its fighters while in custody of Sri Lankan security forces on Sunday.

63 Killed in Batticaloa

BK070804 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, at least 63 people have been killed in violence which swept the eastern town Batticaloa since last night. Reports reaching Colombo say armed men went on rampage in Batticaloa town and suburbs, including the Sinhalese areas at Urani and Jayanthipura. At least 25 people, including men, women, and children, are reported to have been killed in these areas. Life in the town has come to a complete standstill.

In a village about 8 km from the town (Fonapalaya) armed men gunned down 38 people last night. Citizen committee sources told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, this morning that the death toll may go up further.

More on LTTE 'Rampage'

BK070844 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0835 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—One hundred and twenty seven Sinhalese villagers have been massacred by Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam terrorists during the last 16 hours in Sri Lanka's Eastern Province districts of Batticaloa and Trincomalee.

Official sources told *Lanka Puwath* that 102 had been killed in Batticaloa since eight o'clock last night (2000 hours local time), while a further 25 had been killed at Trincomalee.

There were also 10,000 refugees in the Trincomalee District and a mass exodus of Sinhalese was taking place as LTTE terrorists went on the rampage leaving a trail of human carnage. Earlier yesterday the LTTE murdered eight soldiers being held captive and dumped their bodies at the Jaffna bus station.

About 600 Sinhalese villagers had left their homes and trekked a distance of over 60 miles south to Habarana carrying whatever belongings they could as they said they were being harrassed by soldiers of the Indian Peace Keeping Force.

They also killed four policemen, two in Jaffna and two in Vavuniya.

Last night's bloodbath commenced with LTTE terrorists riding up to a house in Batticaloa town on three motorcycles and shooting dead four women. The house was that of a senior businessman of the area.

Next they moved to another house in Batticaloa town and burnt alive two men both long-standing residents of Batticaloa and leading businessmen.

Meanwhile, at 9 pm (2100 hours local time) the night mail train from Batticaloa was attacked as it ground to a halt at the Valachanai paper mills railway station where forty Sinhalese passengers were hounded into one compartment shot and hacked to death.

Meanwhile eleven houses with their inmates were burnt in Batticaloa town bringing the total number of deaths there to 17.

At 2245 hours (local time) the Eravur Police Station situated about 10 miles from Batticaloa town attacked by LTTE terrorists with automatic weapons but the attack was repulsed.

However, terrorists attacked several Sinhalese villages in the area and murdered 25 farming families.

When a joint police and Indian Peace Keeping Force patrol moved to the beleagured villages of Punnakuda and Thalavaya they were attacked by terrorists with hand grenades.

LTTE Orders Attacks on IPKF

BK070949 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0937 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The current wave of LTTE terrorist violence spread to Batticaloa in eastern Sri Lanka last night as the Tigers went on the rampage.

Superintendent of Police Batticaloa Ronnie Gunasinghe told *Lanka Puwath* that LTTE leadership in Batticaloa ordered their cadres in Batticaloa to resume full-scale terrorist operations including attacking the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force].

Six persons including four women were killed, a Sinhalese village raided, the entire night train from Batticaloa to Colombo burnt at Valachenai, and 11 homes in Batticaloa were set on fire by terrorists.

The terrorists were also engaged in a firefight with police and Indian Peace Keeping Force who together repulsed the attack from bunkers outside the office of the deputy inspector general of police in Batticaloa town.

Seventy-five Sinhalese familes in the village of Punakulam near Eravur had been given refuge at the Eravur Police Station after their village was attacked by terrorists.

The Batticaloa Colombo train had been stopped by armed gangs of LTTE terrorists at Valachenai at 9 pm and 11 carriages burnt after the passengers were ordered to get off the train.

The first incident was at 8 o'clock last night when three terrorists on three motorcycles rode up to the home of a long standing resident, Martin Mudalai and shot dead four women.

Next they went to the home of Sirisena and burnt him and another to death. His wife was injured.

A curfew was clamped in the Batticaloa police division till 6 am this morning and the situation brought under control by the police and the IPKF.

Curfew Imposed in Batticaloa

BK071443 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1401 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The curfew in Batticaloa will be effective from 5 pm (1700 hours local time) today to 6 am (0600 hours local time) tomorrow (Thursday 8 October).

The curfew in the Trincomalee town, Uppuveli and China Bay will be imposed at 6 pm (1800 hours local time) today and will be lifted at 6 am (0600 hours) tomorrow (Thursday 8 October).

25 Villagers Killed

BK070651 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0640 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 7 (*Lanka Puwath*) — A senior police official told *Lanka Puwath* that the armed terrorists had raided the village of Sagarapura a farming colony at Kuchaveli, eastern Sri Lanka at 2345 hours (local time) last night and killed 25 villagers.

The terrorists had obstructed the road in order to prevent rescue operations.

Police at Mannar reported to police headquarters this morning that LTTE planned a major attack on Mannar town.

Police told *Lanka Puwath* that the Mannar police had reported that terrorists had already moved in heavy mortar guns and rocket launches and positioned them at Mallakam Junction.

Meanwhile another police report states that LTTE terrorists launched an attack on the Eravur police station with automatic weapons late last night, this was reported.

Terrorists had also attacked a number of Sinhala villagers and killed several.

These villagers were from China Bay, Mud Core Amarapura, Sirimapura, Trincomalee town, Mihindipura, Mahyagasyaya Uppuweli in east Sri Lanka.

Police also report that an army vehicle had been attacked on Oddusudan in which three soldiers were wounded and rushed to hospital.

Police also told *Lanka Puwath* that terrorists had shot at a policemen manning a barrier on the Jaffna Mannar road yesterday morning in this attack. Police Constable Abeysinghe succumbed to his injuries at Vavuniya hospital.

Police Sergeant Barman who was airlifted to Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital also died of injuries.

Police Constable Srathin is lying seriously wounded at Sri Jayewardenepura Hospital.

Four self loading rifles (SLR) and a walkie talkie which were in the possession of the wounded soldiers were taken by the terrorists. Later one SLR and the walkie talkie were found.

Land Mine Explodes

BK071053 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1035 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Three soldiers were killed and 16 wounded in a terrorist land mine explosion at Wakarai in Sri Lanka's Eastern Province today.

Security sources told *Lanka Puwath* that the truck in which the soldiers were traveling ran into a terrorist landmine.

This brings the number of persons killed during the last 24 hours northern and eastern Sri Lanka to 134.

Sinhalese Given Refuge

BK070701 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0650 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 7 (*Lanka Puwath*) — 500 Sinhalese have been given refuge at Habarana as they have been forced to leave their homes due to harassment, police told *Lanka Puwath*.

800 Refugees To Return

BK071455 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1430 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—Two officials of the Indian Government, V Palinchammy, director of rehabilitation, Tamil Nadu and Abdulla Shah, a senior ministry official of Tamil Nadu, will be arriving on the motor vessel *Akbar* with 800 Sri Lankan refugees from Tamil Nadu, tomorrow.

The port of disembarkation for the refugees will be Trincomalee.

Superintendent of Police Ronnie Gunasinghe told *Lanka Puwath* tonight that there was joint patrolling by IPKF [Indian peacekeeping force] and Sri Lanka Police and there was calm prevailing in the district.

'Decisive' Action Ordered in Trincomalee

BK071115 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Oct 87

[Text] In view of the serious developments in the north and the east, the Government of India has specifically directed commander in chief, General Deepender Singh, [of the Indian Peacekeeping Force] to proceed to Trincomalee and take charge of the situation. The general has already arrived in Trincomalee. He has been ordered to take direct and decisive actions to bring the situation under control. He will act in consultation with General Cyril Ranatunge, the joint operations commander. Any

person who violates the law, commits arson, indulges in any kind of violence, and causes disruption to the implementation of the India-Sri Lanka peace accord will be severely dealt with.

Communist, Mahajana Parties Score Violence

BK071431 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1412 GMT 7 Oct 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Oct 07 (*Lanka Puwath*)—The Communist Party of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Mahajana Party expressed their profound concern that forces opposed to the peace accord are intensifying their efforts to sabotage its implementation, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation announced in its news bulletin this evening.

The deliberate acts of violence in different parts of the country are an example of the desperation of these forces.

The Communist Party and the Mahajana Party have condemned the killings resorted to by the LTTE and said that the savagery was against all accepted norms of civilized conduct.

The statement adds that the key matter is that the Indian Government should fulfill its duty under the accord to see that all arms in the possession of the militant groups especially the LTTE and [as received] are surrendered.

It calls for the respective obligations under the accord to be fulfilled.

Opposition Leader Criticizes India's Role

BK070745 Colombo SUN in English 26 Sep 87 p 11

[Speech by opposition leader Aruna Bandaranaike during debate in Parliament on 24 September on continuing the state of emergency]

[Text] I have the unfortunate task of speaking after the MP for Ratnapura. His speeches are getting from bad to worse.

When one looks at the Indo-Sri Lanka accord, leaving out the emotions, one will agree that most of the accord is of great benefit to the Government of India. They have been able to extract more than what they bargained for from the government.

There are only two areas which could be of benefit to Sri Lankans. One is the surrender of arms by the various militant groups and the other the great promise made by H.E. [his excellency] the president—eternal peace. These are the only two areas of consolation to the people.

Now we must examine how far these two areas have been satisfied. We all know that the LTTE member Mr Prabhakaran never gave his consent to this agreement. He has said after the signing of the agreement also that this aim is for a separate state of Eelam.

A large number of arms have not yet been surrendered. The arms were to be handed in by August 18 but the date has been extended over and over again and there is no final date for the handing over of arms.

What happens next? Under the accord the Indians are under obligation to go and look for the arms as our Army is confined to barracks. What has the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] done? I have personally learnt that the Indians have said they will end up with a Vietnam-like situation where foreign troops were engaged in a guerrilla war with people of another country.

I would like to quote from an interview given by the Indian High Commissioner J.N. Dixit. I have nothing against the gentleman. He is a diplomat par excellence.

He knows what he wants and he knows what his government wants. But he has become a viceroy. He has become an obstreperous and arrogant viceroy. In an interview with the island recently, Mr Dixit had said that if something had happened on the day of the assassination attempt on President J.R. Jayewardene or another attempt had followed and had been a success. [sentence as published] India had anticipated anarchy and chaos.

Mr Dixit had also said "We do not know what would have happened to the Tamil minority in such a situation. We had a moral obligation to protect them". What right has Mr Dixit to ensure the protection of a section of our people?

The *Sun* of past days reported the internecine warfare between the Tiger groups. It was also reported that the LTTE had killed many people in the east to enforce their hold over the area.

What has been happening in the north and the east since the signing of the accord? Has peace been achieved? The Army has been confined to their barracks. Has the Indian Army restored even a modicum of peace to the north and the east? The agreement that has been carried out by men desperately wanting a solution is not working. The peace is in pieces. As the member for Kalmunai said in the morning, the situation is worse than before.

Can the Buddhist priests go back to Jaffna? Can the baker go back to the north and bake his bread? He cannot. He will be baked in Vavuniya before he gets to Jaffna. No Sinhalese man can still go to Jaffna.

My book on the Indo-Lanka accord was taken into custody by the CID [Criminal Investigation Department] and subsequently released after I protested. We are perfectly at liberty to publish what we want and say what we want now that the censorship has been lifted.

Lawmaker Says CIA Behind Attempt on President

BK061413 Colombo SUN in English 26 Sep 87 p 11

[Speech by SLFP member S.D. Bandaranayake during debate in Parliament on 24 September on continuing the state of emergency]

[Text] I wish to submit certain matters which I consider important in the light of what is happening in our country today in this emergency debate.

The government has to accept that the aid given to the Jayewardene government by the United States of America was cut by 50 percent in 1986 and the U.S. was looking for an alternative leadership in Sri Lanka and eliminate the president like S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike in 1959.

And it was in this background that the president took the side of India. India has a defence treaty with the USSR.

Therefore, the government has to accept that the conspiracy to assassinate the president in parliament on August 18, 1987 has been organised by the CIA.

It is only the CIA that is capable of penetrating the state security cordon provided on this day in parliament to the president and members of the government party at their meeting.

The assassination attempt on Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on July 30, 1987 was also organised by an unknown foreign hand implicating the president in order to eliminate the Sri Lankan Army by the Indian Army. Then the conspirators could bring in their troops as saviours of democracy.

This process was to eliminate the Maha Sangha [Buddhist clergy] and the opposition party supporters and students. This can bring about a complete catastrophe in the Asian region military.

The CIA was instrumental in the assassination of Premier S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike on September 25, 1959. The CIA accepted that they were responsible for the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, Premier S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, and Indira Gandhi. The unseen hand that operated behind the youth in the counterrevolution of Madame Srimavo Bandaranaike's government in 1971 was also the CIA.

In this background, His Excellency the president can be assassinated at any moment, and the whole country will be in a state of anarchy and innocent people can be implicated.

On March 9, 1970 I raised a similar question about the CIA in parliament and I was incarcerated as a political detenue in 1971 for three years and nine months.

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